

11 PAGES OF SPORT WITH FA CUP FIFTH-ROUND DRAW AND FULL MATCH REPORTS



THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,828

MONDAY 25 JANUARY 1999

(1R50p) 45p



EAT AT BRITAIN'S FINEST RESTAURANTS AND PAY JUST 45p FOR YOUR PARTNER

CHOOSE FROM MORE THAN 450 TOP RESTAURANTS. SEE THIS SECTION, P22, FOR DETAILS. TOKEN COLLECT



IOC expels six as bribe row grows

SIX MEMBERS of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) were last night suspended with a recommendation that they should be expelled over "inappropriate behaviour" in the bidding process for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

The cases of three other members will continue to be investigated and a warning has been issued to one other member, all in connection with the successful bid for the games by Salt Lake City.

It was also announced that investigations would be widened into conduct involved in the bidding for previous games, and that the process of choosing an Olympic city will now be reformed to try to prevent further abuse of the system.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, IOC president, while making the announcement said that a further resignation had been received from another of those implicated in the scandal, to go with those of two members who resigned last week.

He called on the six named last night to go voluntarily in order to close this sad chapter in Olympic history. "They have done great harm to the Olympic ideal," he said. "Their greatest service now would be to simply accept their fate."

Dick Pound, the Canadian IOC vice-president who led the special committee conducting the investigation, said that their activities did not amount to bribery or corruption. They

BY JOHN DAVISON
in Lausanne

had all, however, broken the Olympic oath which they took on joining the IOC.

What they had done, he said, amounted more to an "exercise of bad judgement".

"It was more asking for things. For assistance given that amounted to an abuse of their position, a position that could possibly decide the fate of a bidding city."

Of the six, four are from Africa and two from South America. Most prominent among them is Jean-Claude Ganga, from the Congo, who is president of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa. He is also said to have been a close ally of Samaranch in his courting of support from Third World countries.

Ganga is a former ambassador to China. He was one of three African members said to have received a total of \$28,000 worth of free medical services from companies that became the health care provider for the 2002 games. He is also said to have made a \$60,000 profit on a land deal arranged by people associated with the Salt Lake City bid.

Other African members are: Zein El Abdin Abdel Gadir from Sudan; Lamine Keita (Mali); and Charles Nderitu Mukora (Kenya). The additional member who resigned is David S. Sibanza, of Swaziland.

Sergio Santander Fantini,

from Chile, an IOC member since 1992 and president of the Chilean Olympic Committee, denies taking a \$10,000 donation from Salt Lake City to help finance his re-election campaign as mayor of Santiago.

He, for one, is not intending to go quietly. Yesterday, before the results of the inquiry were announced, he said: "I don't think I am guilty. I am not going to quit. If I were forced out that would be very difficult for me. But the truth will appear."

Agustin Carlos Arroyo is a former private secretary to the president of Ecuador, and has been an IOC member since 1968. His stepdaughter worked for the Utah state government and the Salt Lake City Olympic Bid Committee. She is also said to have received help while attending a school in Texas.

Investigations are to continue into Kim Un-yong, from South Korea. If he were to be expelled, he would be the biggest fish to be caught in the investigative net - as he is a member of the IOC's ruling executive board.

Vitaly Smirnov, from Russia, and Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye, from the Ivory Coast, are also still under scrutiny. Anton Geesink, from Holland, was given a warning yesterday after he admitted receiving a donation of \$5,000 from the Salt Lake City organisers to a private foundation. He said he had never asked for the money.

Low farce, page 3



Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, at a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, yesterday, when six members of the committee were suspended. AP/Michel Euler

Living cells to be made from scratch

BY STEVE CONNOR AND CHARLES ARTHUR

A LEADING EXPERT on genetics is poised to create a totally synthetic life-form using artificial genes - a feat that, if successful, would mark a giant scientific leap forward.

Craig Venter, an American scientist and pioneer in the drive to unravel the human genetic blueprint, said his project could have practical benefits but acknowledged that the experiment has serious ethical implications.

He told the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in Los Angeles, that he has asked a body of religious leaders and ethicists to consider the moral implications of making a synthetic organism.

Dr Venter's plans are based on genes taken from *Mycoplasma genitalia*, a parasite which makes its home in human reproductive organs. It is the simplest life-form yet found, and is made up of just 470 genes, compared to the estimated 80,000 in human DNA.

Research has established that just 300 of the microbe's genes are essential to its existence, although it is unclear what function 100 of these perform.

Now Dr Venter, head of Celera Genomics, wants to synthesise these 300 genes and get them to make their own self-replicating cells. "We're trying to understand the minimum set of genes necessary to comprise a living cell," he said.

The idea drew a mixed reception from other scientists. "It is technically feasible, and it would be a daring piece of genetic engineering," said Steve Jones, professor of genetics at University College London. "The thing about nature, though, is that it has ways of being more complicated than we think."

Professor Richard Dawkins, author of *The Selfish Gene*, said: "Synthesising life in a test tube would be a blow to the religious view that there's something special about life. But this is no different in concept from genetic modification of an existing life-form."

However, John Durant, professor of public understanding of science at Imperial College, London, said: "One can see potential benefits, but also potential risks. 'This work should be done in a very secure environment, like that for working with dangerous pathogens.'"

Association reports, page 5

MI6 officers worked in Iraq as UN inspectors

MI6 OFFICERS worked under cover in Iraq as part of the United Nations team of arms inspectors looking for chemical and biological weapons, an *Independent* investigation has revealed. The disclosure follows admissions that US spies had worked in the Uncom teams.

Sources in Whitehall and at the UN in New York say MI6 first infiltrated the UN Weapons Inspectate soon after it was set up in 1991.

"A number of officers were asked if they were interested in the posting. One officer joined for a period," said a source. Some officers are thought to

BY PAUL LASHMAR
AND DAVID USBORNE
in New York

have been rotated through the teams.

Norman Baker, a Liberal Democrat MP, has put down a series of questions for Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and the Defence Secretary, George Robertson, due to be answered today, on whether British intelligence officers were involved in Uncom.

He said last night: "I would be very, very angry if the independence and integrity of the Uncom was compromised in

this way. To include MI6 and Ministry of Defence intelligence staff deliberately in the UN teams is to undermine the UN itself."

Uncom teams were recruited from many states, usually chosen for a specialisation in areas of nuclear, chemical and biological warfare and communications.

The inspectors found that Iraq had a far more elaborate concealment system than had been supposed.

Uncom decided it needed to break the Iraqi wall of secrecy and turned to the intelligence communities of several coun-

tries, notably the US, Britain and Israel. They supplied Uncom with experts in espionage - that is, spies.

Earlier this month some American newspapers, citing anonymous US officials, reported that intelligence officers had been passed to Washington for its own use. Some of the information, they said, had been used to identify targets in last month's British and American attacks on Iraq.

Most controversial have been reports that the US supplied Uncom with an eavesdropping device to tap Iraqi officers' communications. Sources say the US demanded overall control of the machine and made sure all data re-



ceived was shown only to experts from a narrow club of states. Explicitly barred were Israel, France and Russia. Those with full access reportedly came from just four countries: the US, Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

Asked by *The Independent*

British Uncom members were recruited by the Foreign Office, which said: "We don't comment on intelligence matters." But *The Independent* has established that the British group included intelligence officers, using diplomatic cover to gather intelligence independently.

Asked by *The Independent*

for a list of British inspectors, the Foreign Office and Uncom both refused.

"We do not have the staff available to compile such a list," said the Uncom spokesman, Euan Dungannon, in New York. A Foreign Office spokesman said: "We do not have such a list."

A US F-15 fighter attacked an Iraqi missile installation in the northern no-fly zone yesterday. A Pentagon spokesman said the F-15 fired in self-defence after aircraft enforcing the no-fly zone were tracked by Iraqi radar. There was no damage to US aircraft, he said.

INSIDE THIS SECTION

Blair fury at newspaper Tony Blair protested to the PCC over a story about his daughter's new school. Home P2

Stephen Lawrence Interview with the friend who saw him murdered. Home P5

Tusa accuses Arts Council John Tusa attacked the Arts Council for refusing to give Lottery cash to the Barbican. Home P8

Clinton trial Monica Lewinsky's return changes everything. Foreign P9

Mob kills missionary A man and his two young sons were burnt to death in India as they slept in their car. Foreign P11

Kosovo rebels freed Nine ethnic Albanians were released in a secret deal. Foreign P11

Aid urged for small firms Business leaders call on the Chancellor to use the Budget for £1bn boost for small firms. Business P12

Red card for Petit Arsenal's Emmanuel Petit was sent off in Wolves match. Sport P26

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Deborah Ross Meet Jimmy Boyle, the hard man of sculpture who is partial to Donna Karan. Review Front

Andrew Marshall Bill, Monica and why the Republicans have already lost. Comment P4

Up the trouser leg What the best-dressed fox in town is wearing this season. Features P8

Cleaning up in Goa The war on drugs in every hippie's favourite paradise. Features P9

Shape of Arts to Come David Bintley of Birmingham Royal Ballet is our man for ballet in the 21st century. Arts P10

Going underground The strange strip-lit world of subterranean e-commerce. Network P13



TODAY'S TELEVISION PAGE 18

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD	Australia	8.90 AS	Belgium	50 BF	Cyprus	1.20 CC	Denmark	16.00 DN	Finland	16.00 FF	Gibraltar	50.80
	Austria	40.00 Sch	Canada	2.50 CS	Czech Republic	112 K	France	19.00 FM	Germany	4.50 DM	Greece	700 Dr

WINTER GERMS ARE BACK

RELAXON

DOUBLE ACTION

HELP YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM GIVE MAXIMUM PROTECTION FROM COLDS AND FLU

Independent record labels roll over as the conglomerates go rocking on

BY ANDREW GUMBEL
in Los Angeles

THE END was not unexpected, but it was brutal and quick. When the 170 employees of A&M records - the label that gave the world Joe Cocker, Cat Stevens, Supertramp and the Police - turned up for work last Thursday, they were told they were all fired and had until the end of the day to clear their desks.

As the doors closed for the last time on the label's Hollywood office, employees hugged and wept in the car park. Sheryl Crow, one of the label's more recent stars, turned up to commiserate. Someone wrapped a black banner round the company's trademark signpost on La Brea Avenue. A 37-year era of independent music production reached the end of its final track.

A&M has become the latest, and most illustrious victim of a major shake-up in the record industry, in which the once-thriving independent sector is being eaten up by corporate giants with terrifying speed.

For the past decade, A&M had operated as a largely autonomous arm of PolyGram Entertainment, but that came to an end last month when PolyGram was bought for a staggering \$10.4bn (£6.3bn) by Seagram, the Canadian drinks conglomerate that has decided to move forthrightly into the entertainment business.

The deal gave Seagram control not only of A&M, but also of a clutch of other labels, including Geffen Records, Motown, Mercury and Island. More than 100 have lost their jobs at Geffen and a further 200 at the other three labels, all based on the US East coast. In all, as much as 20 per cent of PolyGram's 15,000 employees are expected to be laid off, and about 250 bands and solo artists will lose their contracts.

Such savage cutbacks have an easy business rationale: many of the smaller labels have been struggling for years, largely as a result of taking on too many loss-making bands, and Seagram - which also owns Universal Studios - hopes that a leaner operation with extra-

ordinary economies of scale can produce a surge in corporate profits.

But for the producers and artists at the receiving end of such cold business logic, it feels as though the industry's soul has been savaged.

"I don't think their bottom line has much to do with music or artists. It's very black and white," said Herb Alpert, the jazz trumpeter who co-founded A&M back in 1962.

Already, he said, after the takeover by PolyGram "it was hard to make a decision like we used to... just from the gut, based on feeling, not whether an artist might be able to sell oodles of records".

"The Lonely Bull", by Alpert and the Tijuana Brass, provided A&M with its first hit, and gave it the confidence to sign up such names as Carole King, Burt Bacharach, Joe Cocker, Cat Stevens and the Carpenters. Later stars included Supertramp, the Police and Janet Jackson.

A&M will not disappear altogether: its familiar trumpet symbol will continue to appear on records and discs, but as little more than a corporate logo under an entirely new management team.

Both A&M and Geffen will be absorbed by Interscope Records, a successful former indie operation in its own right,

responsible for the rap stars Dr Dre and Tupac Shakur, among others. The net result will be similar to the new landscape in the film industry, where artistically vigorous independent production companies that once posed a real challenge to the big studios have been bought up and turned into so-called "mini-majors" - slicker, but generally blander subsidiaries of large corporate holdings.

"This isn't about Universal or Seagram," the outgoing head of A&M, Al Cafero, said about his own firing. "The record business is changing fundamentally. Don't think that there are calm seas on the other side of

this threshold... It's a Wall Street world now. Get ready." The record business now boils to down to five big conglomerates, and that could be reduced to four if rumours of a buyout of EMI Group by BMG are substantiated.

What industry professionals most fear is that what remains of diversity and originality there is in popular music will be snuffed out for the sake of making easy, vouchsafing money-spinners: in other words, more Take That and Spice Girls clones. Serious artists have already found it difficult over the past decade or so to hold on to their integrity and resist the pressure to commercialise.

IT'S ONLY ROCK AND ROLL - THE SEAGRAM MUSIC EMPIRE



FOUNDED

Founded in 1962 by producer Jerry Moss and jazz trumpeter Herb Alpert. (left)

WHY IT WAS GREAT

Its first hit, The Lonely Bull, by Alpert and the Tijuana Brass, was the impetus for signing artists like Joe Cocker, Carole King, and Burt Bacharach. Later came Supertramp, the Police and Janet Jackson. Brief flirtation with the Sex Pistols in 70's

WHERE IT STANDS NOW

Retained its identity within PolyGram for ten years until the recent Seagram takeover when only the trumpet symbol survived a new management team and absorption by Interscope Records.

A & M



ISLAND



MOTOWN



GEFFEN



MERCURY



Founded 1959 by white Jamaican Chris Blackwell as specialist ska label. Within a decade was world's largest independent record company.

After his first hit in 1964 with Millie's My Boy Lollipop, Blackwell discovered Steve Winwood, and signed Bob Marley and Roy Kinnear. The Motown Sound was the definitive 60's and 70's "hit factory"

Sold to PolyGram in 1989. Blackwell remained as chairman in 1997 prior to Seagram take-over. Fantastic back catalogue, but current roster, apart from co-owners U2, is poor. Uncertain future.

Emerged from the Detroit jazz and blues scene when Berry Gordy set up a recording studio under his apartment in 1959.

Changed the face of popular music with artists like Diana Ross and the Supremes, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye and the Jackson Five. The Motown Sound was the definitive 60's and 70's "hit factory"

Said to have lost its edge since it moved to Los Angeles in 1972, its future as a separate entity must be in doubt without new artists. Now largely a back catalogue "heritage" label.

Founded in 1980 by David Geffen, millionaire behind Asylum Records and manager for Laura Nyro and Crosby, Stills & Nash

The most successful independent label, a bastion of American Adult Oriented Rock. Its stars included Guns N' Roses and Peter Dinklage. Also released John Lennon's last album Double Fantasy.

Sold to PolyGram in 1990 and now likely to become, like A & M, little more than a logo. But a solid performer now it has diversified from AOR to acts like Nirvana and Beck.

Founded in 1947 in the United States, it is the oldest of the Seagram labels. Purchased in 1961 by Philips.

All Rod Stewart's early serious solo albums were released on Mercury. More recently it became the home of Metallica, INXS, Page and Plant, Bon Jovi, Boyzone and Elvis Costello.

Should survive as a separate label. Another good back catalogue coupled with currently popular artists like the resurgent James and Texas and hipper acts such as Roni Size & Reprazent.

Song ban 'amuses' McCartney



Sir Paul: Placing adverts for his late wife's song

SIR PAUL McCartney will today release a single and video by his late wife, Linda, despite a blanket ban on all airplay by radio and television stations because the song contains a profanity.

In a row which seems to belong in the Sixties, Sir Paul is also taking out an advertisement in *The Independent* and other media urging parents to support his stance.

Sir Paul said last night that he was amused by the ban, though associates said that he was also angry, particularly with his record company, EMI, which has insisted on releasing the single, "The Light Comes

BY DAVID LISTER
Arts News Editor

From Within", with a "parental guidance" sticker warning of explicit lyrics. "I find it all very funny," Sir Paul said. "I don't think it's annoying. I think it's hilarious. After all, people do use the word on the radio and on the radio too... In what age are we living? Is this the Nineties or is it the Twenties?"

Sir Paul's tongue-in-cheek advertisement asks parents to give their "guidance" on whether children will be "morally corrupted" by the controversial line in the song,

In the advert, he says: "Should you decide that your children must not hear this record we would be grateful for your wisdom and good sense and will put our fingers in our ears whenever we hear it played."

"If, on the other hand, you feel that no harm will come to your children by being exposed to this song, give the guidance so sorely needed and tell them it's okay to do so."

The offending lyric, which was believed to be Linda McCartney's last retort to critics, says: "You say I'm simple, you say I'm a dick - you're fucking no one, you stupid dick."

High on a hill, lofty ideals are exposed as low farce

THE OLYMPIC Museum in Lausanne was the perfect stage for Juan Antonio Samaranch, chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), to make his ground-breaking announcement last night.

In a stunning hilltop setting overlooking Lake Geneva, the dazzling white building is Mr Samaranch's greatest physical legacy to the movement he has headed for almost 20 years, and the realisation of a personal dream. When it was opened in 1994, the man who likes to be known as "His Excellency" was at the height of his power.

Outside, the Flame burns brightly. But inside is one visual cue to the scandal sweeping through the Olympic movement. In a cabinet is a jewelled sabbre given to Mr Samaranch by the President of Kazakhstan. Next to it is a sculpture of two embracing athletes entitled "Fair Play". It is the collision between the reality of gifts and notions of fair play which has brought the organisation to its moral knees.

Findings by the Special Investigative Committee, set up to investigate the awarding of the 2002 Winter Games to Salt Lake City, have revealed levels of venality among IOC mem-

JOHN DAVIDSON
in Lausanne

bers which have shocked believers in the Olympic ideals.

As the debate continues over how far corruption has spread, one fact is clear. It is Mr Samaranch who brought all this about. When he took over in 1980 the Games were in trouble. That year's event in Moscow had been boycotted by the United States, while in 1976 the Montreal Games had lost millions. Only two cities competed to stage the next one in 1984.

At an IOC meeting in Germany in 1981 Mr Samaranch teamed up with Horst Dassler, heir to the Adidas empire, to create a global marketing strategy. The five interlocking rings were not just to be seen as an aspiration towards world peace and understanding through sport, they were to be a brand.

The strategy at first seemed to be a resounding success. The 1984 Los Angeles Games were spectacular, with makers of everything from photographic film to fizzy drinks being charged millions for carrying the logo. The event made a profit for backers of \$220m (£133m). In 1985, six bidders wanted



Samaranch: Designed the global marketing strategy

the 1992 games. Barcelona, Mr Samaranch's home town, won. But from then, cities started to put serious efforts into swinging the votes of IOC members. As well as lavish hospitality, the gifts began to flow. In 1986, the situation was such that a limit was imposed of \$150 for gifts per member in the later stages of the bidding, \$50 in earlier stages. The limits include gifts to all relatives, and a ban on entering into any "agreements, transactions or any other contracts".

These are the rules that Salt Lake City stands accused of violating. But it had been trying to get the Games since 1984. The final straw must have come in 1991, when it was trying yet again, only to be beaten by Nagano for the right to stage last year's Winter Olympics.

Nagano had no existing facilities and indifferent snow, but it did have Yoshiaki Tsutsomi, one of the world's richest men. And he brought together 19 Japanese companies to contribute \$20m to the building of the Olympic Museum.

To all accusations of him being personally swayed in IOC decisions by gifts, Mr Samaranch replies that he does not have a vote himself. But he does have a huge say on who becomes an IOC member. When finally cornered earlier this month over having received an engraved pistol and rifle from Salt Lake City, valued at about \$2,000, his response was that all his gifts were accepted on behalf of the Olympic movement and would eventually be displayed in the museum.

One wonders whether there would be enough room in his museum to accommodate all the largesse extended to him.

Cover yourself fully this winter with RAC's free offers

Free Joint Cover when you take out RAC membership for yourself, saving you £22, or

Free Family Cover when you take out Joint Cover, worth £23, or

Free Onward Travel when you take out Standard Cover or individual Cover with Recovery option, worth £25, plus

Free RAC Traffic Alert 1210 when you take out Standard Cover (RRP £29.99)

Call free today

0800 029 029

Offer ends 28 February 1999

Lines open 8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday.

Quote reference: DST084

www.rac.co.uk



RAC

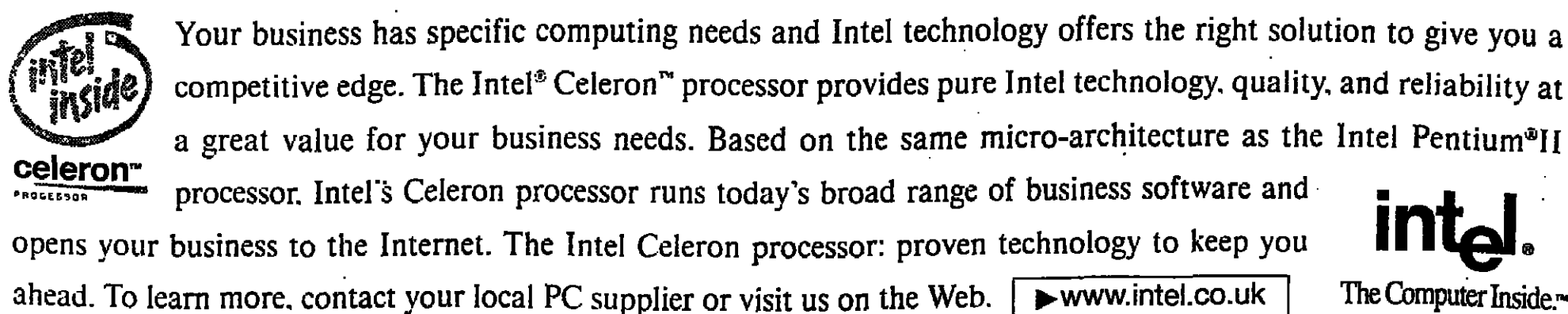
movement drives us





PROCESSOR

Great performance at an exceptional value.



intel.
The Computer Inside.™

© 1999 Intel Corporation. Intel, Pentium and Intel Inside are registered trademarks, and Celeron is a trademark of Intel Corporation.

Ginola

[illegible]

Kidd's and the fortune

may KIDD has one thing going for him as he makes his first steps in management: he may not be a tactical genius but there is no doubt he is smiling on him.

Like his predecessors at Blackburn, Ray Harford and Roy Hodgson, his luck does not seem to improve but, unlike the managerial ghosts of the past, the results are going in his favour. Who needs most of his team if you can get away with a few of FA Cup travesties like this?

Throughout this class there was a Premiership-grade team performing but it was not the team in blue and white halves. Blackford, the runaway leader of the First Division, were on the better side, yet some of them managed to bow out of the fourth round stage.

Partly that was their own fault because their reluctance to push men forward undermined their master class in passing, but most of all they fell victim to the flow that is going with Kidd.

This seemed to have run out when Blackburn had Jeff Astle sent off after 62 minutes. In the two substitute offences and the goalkeeper John Filson

'I saw Stephen killed and the suspects go free'

DUWAYNE BROOKS, the young man who was with Stephen Lawrence when he was murdered, has told *The Independent* that he blames himself for his friend's death.

Duwayne said that he should have persuaded Stephen to take a different route home, avoiding the fatal encounter with the racist gang that stabbed him in the street.

In his first newspaper interview since the start of the public inquiry into Stephen's death, Mr Brooks recalled the night of the murder in April 1993, when the two schoolfriends were making their way home after visiting Stephen's uncle, Martin Lindo.

During a journey that involved several buses, they boarded one in Eltham, south-east London. Duwayne's plan was to stay on until the terminus in Blackheath, but Stephen wanted to alight after a couple of stops and pick up another bus that was more direct.

Duwayne gave in, a decision that still haunts him, for it was after the two 18-year-olds got off again in Eltham that Stephen was attacked. "I should have bullied him that night," he said.

"We were the same age, the same height and build, but I was the stronger personality. If I had made him stay on the bus, he would still be here today. There are times when I blame myself for what happened."

For most of the past six years, Mr Brooks, now 24, has suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder. After witnessing Stephen's murder at close quarters, he was treated as a suspect by Metropolitan Police officers at the scene.

Although clearly in great distress, he was given no sympathy, not even asked whether he was injured. Instead, officers demanded to know if he was carrying a weapon. Information that he gave them about the attack was disregarded.

Later - although he made nine statements and attended

By KATHY MARKS

three identification parades - police privately vilified him as aggressive and unco-operative.

Mr Brooks was too upset to give evidence at the public inquiry, which is expected to present its report to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, next week.

But over the past few months, with the help of family and friends, he has begun to emerge from his shell.

"I have lost six years of my life," he said. "I didn't experience those years: there were



Stephen Lawrence: Killed aged 18 in Eltham in 1993

so many things that I didn't do. I didn't go out, I didn't live life to the full. I was like a recluse; I just stayed at home, watching TV."

Duwayne is now studying at college and has a part-time job. He is reluctant to talk about these aspects of his life, or to divulge much information about the people who are important to him.

"If I go out somewhere with a girlfriend, I class myself as a liability," he said. "I feel that it's not so likely that those boys [the suspects] would do something to me. But I worry about my close friends, my girlfriend, my family. That's why they keep

themselves to themselves."

Through media reports, Duwayne kept up with events at the public inquiry, and watched the five - Jamie Acourt, Neil Acourt, Gary Dobson, Luke Knight and David Norris - swagger out after giving evidence.

"I felt like they were mocking me, they were mocking the Lawrences, and they were mocking the inquiry," he said.

Talking about the events of the past six years appears to have had a cathartic effect on Duwayne. He recently went to see *The Colour of Justice*, an acclaimed dramatisation of the public inquiry staged at the Tricycle Theatre in London.

He remembers Stephen as "a good person, very kind, very trusting", and recalls their friendship with nostalgia. "We used to play football together and chat to girls," he said. "I miss him, because he would still be one of my group of friends."

Duwayne is now awaiting the report of Sir William Macpherson, the inquiry chairman. What he most wants is some kind of recommendation that prevents police "from being above the law". He is disgusted that senior officers in the Lawrence case were able to retire and are now immune from sanction.

"I saw my best friend butchered. I saw the suspects free to roam the streets, and no one is taking the blame," he said. "The whole disciplinary system is a waste of time."

Duwayne still fizzes with anger about the way that he was treated. The irony is that, despite receiving an apology from the Metropolitan Police, he still suffers from the police's negative stereotype of young black men.

He has been stopped and searched on several occasions, most recently in central London last week. "That's the reality of life in London," he said. "You drive a car that's too nice, you get stopped. I see racism every day. Nothing has changed."



Duwayne Brooks, who was stopped and searched last week: 'Nothing has changed'

BBC Newsnight

National union for black police

By JASON BENNETTO
Crime Correspondent

THE FIRST national trade union for black and Asian policemen and women has been set up to counter discrimination against non-white officers.

The National Black Police Association is expected to be launched formally within a few months, and is likely to attract members from forces throughout the country.

An interim executive, with representatives from the seven existing BPAs, is drawing up plans for the national launch. They already have an office, based at the Home Office.

Chief Inspector Ali Dizaei of Thames Valley police, vice-chairman of the NBPA, writing in the *Police Review*, said: "Many black police officers experience considerable suspicion and hostility when they stand up and discuss issues of discrimination and racism."

"It is not uncommon for their competence or motives to be questioned when they genuinely and passionately believe things are not right."

The NBPA could resolve some of these issues if police forces are willing to be pragmatic and co-operative.

He added that in a recent study of non-white officers, almost half said they had been stopped and questioned while off duty by police unaware they were talking to fellow officers.

"Thirteen per cent stated they were not treated with respect. This... unequivocally illustrates that the experience of these officers is different."

The national organisation has the backing of Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. He is pressing for chief constables to recruit, retain and promote more black and Asian officers.

However, not all black officers are enthusiastic. Inspector Paul Wilson, chairman of the Metropolitan police BPA, said he was concerned at how far the Home Office would be involved. He said: "We are supportive in principle, but have yet to consult our members and would wish to ensure that any national body fairly reflects the concerns of the Met BPA."

American Association: Trials planned on drug to fight tumours

Scorpion venom can kill some brain cancer cells

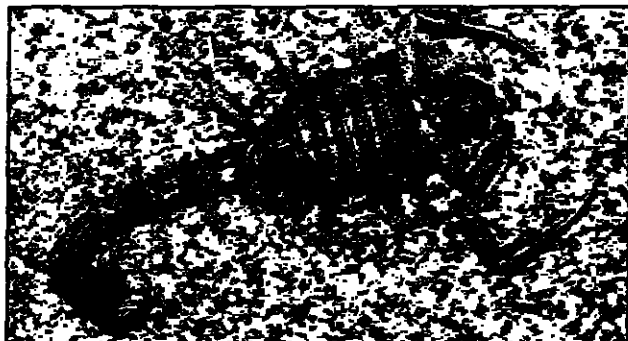
By STEVE CONNOR
in California

A TOXIN from the venom of a scorpion has been found to attack human cancer cells yet leave healthy tissue unharmed, according to scientists who have applied to begin clinical trials with the drug later this year.

Laboratory tests on the tumour cells of a rare form of brain cancer have revealed that the toxin - a protein fragment known as a peptide - can distinguish between healthy and cancerous cells and so act as a "magic bullet" for killing diseased tissue while leaving the rest of the body unaffected.

Scientists believe the research could lead to a treatment for a form of brain cancer called glioma, which kills thousands of people each year, and it might be further developed to treat other types of tumours.

Professor Harald Sontheimer, a neurobiologist at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, told the meeting of the American Association for



The giant Israeli scorpion: poison can help fight cancer

the Advancement of Science in Los Angeles it was surprising to find that the venom of the giant Israeli scorpion, *Leiurus quinquestriatus*, worked against cancerous glioma cells, which act as the brain's packing material to support its nerve cells.

"Interestingly, during the course of evolution, a lot of animals have developed peptides in their venom which shut down the nervous system of their prey - what better way to catch their food. We know for instance that the same peptide

paralyzes cockroaches," Professor Sontheimer said.

The scorpion toxin also targets the "molecular batteries" of human glioma cells, which allow the cells of a developing embryo to shrink and so migrate around the brain. These batteries normally stop functioning once a brain has developed but are re-activated in a glioma, causing the cancer to spread.

"One of the problems this disease has is that although surgeons routinely remove these tumours, by the time they are detected cells have mi-

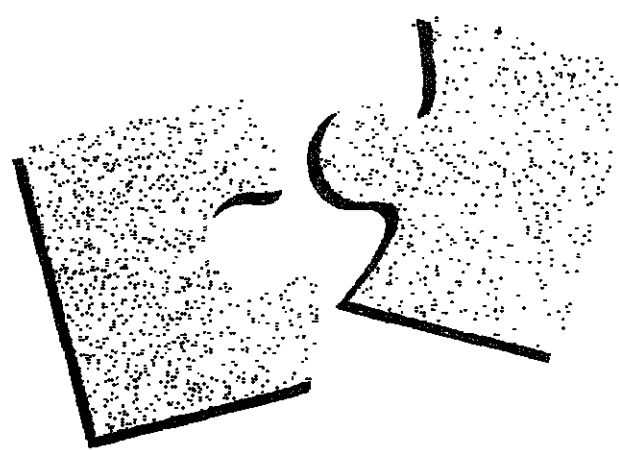
grated away and have essentially infested the entire brain... the chances of the tumour re-occurring is essentially 100 per cent," the professor said.

The scientists plan to make the toxin even more lethal to tumour cells by binding it with additional poisons or radioactive substances. Trials on patients will begin once the United States Food and Drug Administration gives the drug a licence later this year, Professor Sontheimer said.

"Glioma is the deadliest form of cancer known, without any treatment possibilities at the moment. This gives us an opportunity to use this peptide, and its high affinity to bind to these cells, to take deadly poisons to these cells, for example we can make these molecules radioactive giving us the opportunity to do targeted radiation treatment," he said.

"The binding of the peptide to the tumour also stops the cells' ability to move around the brain and so consolidate the tumour to where it is," he added.

easy@demon[no.5]



piece together the jigsaw.

Call to stockpile vaccines against rise of bioterrorism

A SENIOR scientist has warned that the consequences of bioterrorism are so dire that governments must build up stockpiles of antibiotics, vaccines and antiviral drugs to combat the threat.

Frank Young, a former commissioner with the American Food and Drug Administration and an expert on biological weapons, said that the public discussions of bioterrorism is likely to generate hysteria but this is no excuse to do nothing.

"Any discussion of biological

By STEVE CONNOR

warfare and bio-terrorism is likely to evoke great fears on one hand and disbelief on the other," he said. "I would emphasise that the possibility of bioterrorism is a low probability event... But the consequences are so grave it would be unthinkable not to be prepared."

One of the main areas of concern is being able to distinguish quickly between a natural outbreak of a contagious disease and an epidemic gen-

erated by a biological weapon, Dr Young said.

He cited the recent outbreak in the US of Hanta virus - potentially lethal in humans. It took experts nearly a week to ascertain that it was a natural emergence of the disease.

Dr Young said there are three areas that governments must address to lessen the threat of bioterrorism: further development of new antibiotics and vaccines, enhanced civil defence and initiatives to negotiate a meaningful international treaty.

Craig Venter, a leading American geneticist, said unravelling the genetic blueprints of dangerous organisms will help to deter attempts to engineer microbes for use as biological weapons. "There is no way we can easily distinguish between a bioterrorism event and an emerging pathogen [disease-causing microbe]. Virtually every human pathogen is something that can be used as a bioterrorism tool. We need better diagnostic tools to distinguish between them," he said.

what could be easier than that ? getting on-line with demon of course . we've made it so easy , anyone can do it . just call us on 0800 027 9196 or scribble your name and address anywhere on this ad and send it to us at freepost demon (yes , that's all you have to write) . we'll send you our free 30-day trial cd . it doesn't get any easier than that .



Demon Internet
0800 027 9196

A Scottish Telecom Company

www.demon.net email : sales@demon.net

Supermarket demands destroy British orchards



Apple-picking in the orchards of Manor Farm, Kent. Almost 3,000 varieties of British apples and pears have been lost since 1970

INTENSIVE FARMING and the unwillingness of supermarkets to stock home-grown fruit have destroyed more than half of Britain's apple and pear orchards, according to research to be published today.

Two comprehensive studies by an influential food and environment group reveal that half the pear orchards and 60 per cent of the apple orchards have vanished since 1970. In the process, nearly 3,000 varieties of the two fruits have been lost.

The studies warn that the loss of traditional fruit-growing lands is seriously damaging wildlife and has driven many fruit farmers out of business.

The studies on the environmental and social effects of apple and pear production were conducted by the Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Environment Alliance (Safe) and funded partly by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

Safe is urging the Government to make more grants available for creating and

BY LINUS GREGORIADIS

maintaining traditional orchards, where the use of pesticides is banned, or at least minimised.

Rosemary Hoskins, the author of the reports, said: "Consumers are finding it near impossible to buy local varieties or organically produced fruit. At a time when the Government is encouraging us to eat more fresh fruit, it is extraordinary that it also has to advise us on avoiding pesticide residues on that fruit."

Ms Hoskins said supermarket chains should do more to promote a broader range of British varieties.

The researchers found that in the largest supermarkets only a dozen British varieties of apples and pears were on sale.

"It is vital that the Government and food retailers support growers in reducing chemical reliance and growing more varieties," Ms Hoskins said.

"Pressure from retailers has contributed to farmers

giving up their orchards because supermarkets want to buy in bulk. We found that there were more imported apples than British apples in the supermarkets, even when it was the height of our season."

The organisation wants shoppers to buy local, traditional varieties in an attempt to reverse the current trends. "Apples that have been transported around the country are treated with extra pesticides to enable them to survive," said Mr Hoobins.

Orchards are attractive to hedgehogs, foxes and badgers, and can be ideal habitats for wild flowers, mistletoe, bees, butterflies and a variety of other insects, the report says.

The report – *How Green are our Apples?* – incorporates research by the Government which has found that birds are twice as likely to inhabit older, traditional-style orchards than modern orchards, which have smaller, younger and more densely planted trees.

Access to abusers list 'must be wider'

CONFIDENTIAL local registers of paedophiles and suspected child abusers must be made available to voluntary organisations and employers of people working with children, says a report by government advisers published today.

The report, by officials in the home, health and social services departments, backs the Government's aim of a "one-stop shop" for checks on adults who should not be left in charge of children. The move comes amid heightened public concern after two schoolgirls were abducted on their way to school in Sussex last week.

Civil liberties campaigners expressed concern last night that a series of ad hoc measures was being introduced that went further than they thought necessary to protect children.

But the Government is determined to be seen to respond to public fears on child safety. Today Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, will introduce a Bill making it a criminal offence for those responsible for young people under 18 to have sexual relations with them.

Later this week Tessa Jowell, the Health minister responsible for public safety, is to unveil plans to encourage safe routes to schools with extra cash available for parents to set up walking rotas. A key measure will be bringing together the Home Office's criminal records, the Department for Education's "List 99" of those deemed unsuitable for teaching and the Department of Health's "consultancy index" of suspect health workers. Setting up a Criminal Records Bureau, based on Merseyside and due to be fully functional by 2001, will make it easier for those work-

**BY LOUISE JURY
AND JUDITH JUDD**

ing with children to carry out police checks on potential employees. Today's report is understood to recommend that the bureau be extended to include information currently held by health and social services. Everyone from children's homes to Guide leaders should have access, the report argues. The bureau would provide checks, including in some cases convictions considered "spent" under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, for a fee.

John Wadham, of the civil liberties group Liberty, said he was concerned that measures were being introduced ad hoc that would fail to protect children while tarnishing innocent people. "We already know of cases of people who have been acquitted of offences and who have had suspicions following them around, making it impossible for them to get jobs."

Teaching organisations also expressed concerns about the creation of the criminal offence of "abuse of trust", suggested to reassure those who feared that lowering the homosexual age of consent to 16 would leave young boys vulnerable to exploitation by older men.

Headteachers said the new offence would mean that a moment's indiscretion by a young teacher with a 17-year-old girl pupil could land him in jail.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said in a letter to MPs that the creation of the offence was neither necessary nor desirable for those who work in schools and colleges.

**Leading article,
Review, page 3**

Maternity leave is extended

AN ESTIMATED 85,000 women will benefit from a package of "family-friendly" measures to be announced this week by Stephen Byers, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, as part of the Fairness at Work legislation.

Paid maternity leave will be extended from 14 to 18 weeks, but mothers will also be able to take up to 40 weeks in unpaid leave after one year of service, rather than the current two years. Unpaid parental leave for three months at any time during the child's life, possibly up to the age of 16, will be given statutory backing. The details will be given after consultation.

Mr Byers is keen to extend parental leave to couples who have adopted a child. Workers will also have statutory rights to emergency leave to cope with a family crisis for a day or two.

BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

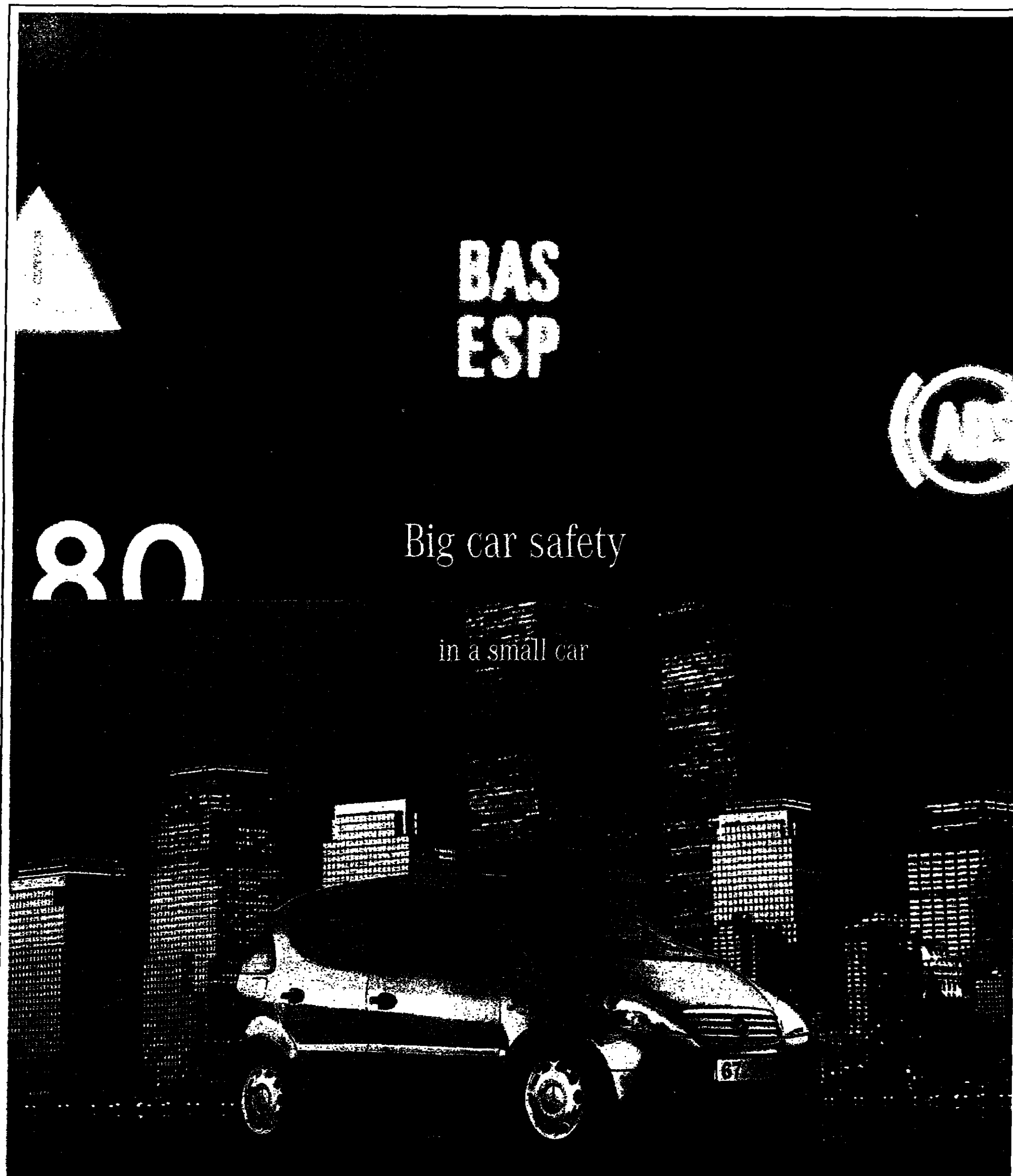
will help to smooth friction over trade-union recognition, which led to months of heated negotiations between senior trade union figures, ministers and heads of industry.

The Bill, to be unveiled on Thursday, includes protection for employers, giving the independent Central Arbitration Committee (CAC) sole discretion in approving automatic recognition of a union. Unions must prove that they have 10 per cent membership in an agreed bargaining unit before applying for recognition. The CAC will award recognition if in a ballot at least 40 per cent of those eligible to vote support it. Where more than 50 per cent are in a union, they will be allowed recognition for bargaining rights without a ballot.

BAS ESP

Big car safety

in a small car



The A-class from £183 per month (11.9% APR)

Convention has it that small cars can't be as safe as big cars. But the A-class challenges that convention. That's because it's built to the same exacting standards as every other Mercedes. You may reasonably expect ABS to come as standard, for example. But Brake Assist? It's a unique technology that, in an emergency, can reduce stopping distances by a further 45%.

And no car, of any size, offers you an active safety system more advanced than our Electronic Stability Programme (ESP).

We were pioneers in the use of airbags. So it's no surprise that there are four of them in the A-Class. What is surprising, though, is that it can be yours for as little as £250 per month (11.9% APR).

Making it not just a safe car, but a sound investment.



Mercedes-Benz

0500 20 21 20

FINANCING A CLASS FROM \$14,400 ON THE ROAD INCLUDES ONE DRIVEWAY, 12 MONTHS ROAD MUND LUBRIC, MAINTENANCE PLAN, FIRST REGISTRATION TAX AND A FULL TANK OF FUEL. *EXAMPLES LISTED ARE BASED ON A MERCEDES CONTRACT FLEASIDE INCOME WITH 25% DEPOSIT FOLLOWED BY 24 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$228.00 (APR \$230) AND OPTIONAL THIRD PRESENT OF \$2,700.26 AN ACCEPTANCE FEE OF \$300 IS PROMISE WITH THE FIRST PAYMENT. TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDITORS 11.9% TOTAL ANNUAL PERCENTAGE 12.9% BASED ON \$2,000 MOLE P.A. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM AMERICAN-RENT

THE SENATE trial of President Clinton resumes this afternoon after a weekend of unforeseen drama that changed the political landscape entirely. With the return to Washington of Monica Lewinsky, the Senate threw its cautious endgame to the wind and opened the way for battle to be rejoined in earnest.

When proceedings adjourned on Friday the stage seemed set for a rapid conclusion to Mr Clinton's agony. Two exceptional speeches - Mr Clinton's State of the Union address on Tuesday, and former senator Dale Bumpers' eloquent defence of the President on Thursday - had changed the dynamic in favour of a settlement. The patriarch of the Senate and acknowledged guardian of the Constitution, the Democratic senator Robert Byrd, had announced that he would argue for dismissal. He was expected to submit a motion to that effect today.

Ms Lewinsky, looking pale and a little thinner than before, had flown back to Washington from Los Angeles on Saturday afternoon after a four-month absence, during which she had — mostly successfully — tried to elude the media spotlight.

In that time, she has negotiated a million-dollar lawsuit and two television interviews, neither of which may be conducted until the trial of the President is over.

While the focus on her case

INTERNATIONAL charities have warned that the 13 tonnes of British medical supplies that reached Freetown yesterday could fall into the wrong hands because foreign aid workers have been virtually banished from Sierra Leone by the Nigerian army.

The £200,000-worth of aid, as well as two ambulances and surgical supplies, is intended to treat thousands of people who yesterday continued to flock into the centre of the capital, fleeing fighting in the Eastend, Kissy and Wellington areas.

Carrying the last of their belongings or helping injured friends, they told of intensified rebel attacks in the past three days - mutilations, other machete wounds and arson.

The British aid was sent after assessors - two from the Department for International Development and one from the European Commission Humanitarian Office - judged that food was less of a priority than medical equipment.

The aid - the first large-scale international effort since fighting began on 5 January - arrived yesterday at Lungi airport, north of Freetown. Seven Royal Marines and crew from HMS Norfolk, moored off Freetown for the past 10 days, were due to oversee its distribution.

However, the assessment team said it was worried that without the full resources of the Red Cross (ICRC), Care and the volunteer doctors of Médecins Sans Frontières, the aid might not be used properly.

Last week, the Nigerian commanded Economic force - 15,000 West African "peace enforcement" troops - confiscated radio communication equipment belonging to charities. It accused the ICRC of collaborating with the rebels, but the Red Cross insisted it was standard practice to communicate with both sides. Fearful for the safety of staff, all foreign

communicate with both sides. Fearing
for the safety of staff, all foreign

THE SENATE trial of President Clinton resumes this afternoon after a weekend of unforeseen drama that changed the political landscape entirely. With the return to Washington of Monica Lewinsky, the Senate threw its cautious endgame to the wind and opened the way for battle to be rejoined in earnest.

When proceedings adjourned on Friday, the stage seemed set for a rapid conclusion to Mr Clinton's agony. Two exceptional speeches — Mr Clinton's State of the Union address on Tuesday, and former senator Dale Bumpers' eloquent defence of the President on Thursday — had changed the dynamic in favour of a settlement. The patriarch of the Senate and acknowledged guardian of the Constitution, the Democratic senator, Robert Byrd, had announced that he would argue for dismissal. He was expected to submit a motion to that effect today.

BY MARY DEJEVSKY
in Washington

Then Ms Lewinsky arrived in town. Her return smashed the delicate manoeuvring towards compromise. It infuriated Democrats, moved the White House close to panic, and offered wavering Republicans a reason not to settle – at least, not yet. How could they move to dismiss the case when a key witness was in Washington?

Ms Lewinsky has the potential either to help or to harm the President - depending on whether she supports the view of a conspiracy to keep the truth of their relationship from the courts. The Republican "prosecutors" have no intention of summoning her to testify unless she will support their cause. Initially, she refused to submit to preliminary questioning, insisting that the terms of her immunity agreement precluded it. On Saturday how-

ever, a judge ruled otherwise, and Ms Lewinsky was on the next plane.

She brought all the images the White House had tried so hard to banish — her youth, her sex appeal and all the sordid details of what occurred under the President in the Oval Office.

Saturday's scheduled question-and-answer session in the Senate Chamber suddenly sprang into life. Ms Lewinsky and whether she should be questioned was a major concern. And the possibility of calling Ms Lewinsky as a witness re-opened the whole dispute about whether witnesses should be heard.

Today's session had been scheduled to start with Senator Byrd's motion to have the case dismissed. Whether this motion will be submitted is now in question for if, as it seems, the return of Ms Lewinsky has reunited the Republicans, not even six will cross the floor to

give the Senator the 51 majority his motion would need. Senators may decide simply to delay the evil day for voting and continue with the question-and-answer session, while meeting in corridors and offices to shape some compromise. If there is a vote on dismissal and that fails, there are still difficult choices to be made.

They could vote on whether to hear witnesses, formally or informally. They have then to decide whether the question should be debated, whether that debate should take place in private and if there are to be witnesses, who they should be.

The only way, under these circumstances, that the trial could end would be if senators agreed on a final vote - guilty or not guilty of the impeachment articles as charged. With only 55 Republicans and the Democrats bound to oppose, the 67 votes required to convict are simply not there - at any rate, not now.



Reuter

A thinner Monica is back in town

MONICA LEWINSKY, the young woman whose thong-exposure three years ago landed the President of the United States in so much hot water, was back in Washington DC yesterday, holed up in the rococo Mayflower Hotel just three blocks from the White House.

As though the calendar had simply been turned back a year, she was preparing once again to meet a flock of lawyers: her own, and members of the office of the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr.

Ms Lewinsky, looking pale and a little thinner than before, had flown back to Washington from Los Angeles on Saturday afternoon, after a four-month absence, during which she had — mostly successfully — tried to elude the media spotlight.

In that time, she has negotiated a million-dollar book deal and two television interviews, neither of which may be conducted until the trial of the President is over.

While the fee arrangements

BY MARY DEJEVSKY

have not been fully disclosed, the money will go only part of the way towards meeting Ms Lewinsky's legal expenses, which already amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. She is also reported to have started doing charity work with children, in preparation for a new, post-glamour life.

For her return to Washington, Ms Lewinsky - dubbed "the face that launched a thousand quips" - had exchanged the pert beret of her presidential embraces for a sombre baseball cap, pulled down low over her eyes.

This half-hearted modesty, though, did nothing to cool media excitement, and having evaded the cameras at Dulles airport, where she was whisked directly from the plane into a waiting car, she was mobbed on arrival at her hotel, and it took all the considerable resources of the Mayflower security to usher her safely to her room.

Sierra Leone aid may be wasted

INTERNATIONAL charities have warned that the 15 tonnes of British medical supplies that reached Freetown yesterday could fall into the wrong hands because foreign aid workers have been virtually banished from Sierra Leone by the Nigerian army.

The £200,000-worth of aid, as well as two ambulances and surgical supplies, is intended to treat thousands of people who yesterday continued to flock into the centre of the capital, fleeing fighting in the Eastend, Kissy and Wellington areas.

Carrying the last of their belongings or helping injured friends, they told of intensified rebel attacks in the past three days - mutilations, other machete wounds and arson.

The British aid was sent after assessors - two from the Department for International Development and one from the European Commission Humanitarian Office - judged that food was less of a priority than medical equipment.

The aid - the first large-scale international effort since fighting began on 6 January - arrived yesterday at Lungi airport, north of Freetown. Seven Royal Marines and crew from HMS Norfolk, moored off Freetown for the past 10 days, were due to oversee its distribution.

However, the assessment team said it was worried that without the full resources of the Red Cross (ICRC), Care and the volunteer doctors of Médecins Sans Frontières, the aid might not be used properly.

Last week, the Nigerian Commanded Economic force - 15,000 West African "peace enforcement" troops - confiscated radio communications equipment belonging to charities. It accused the ICRC of collaborating with the rebels, but the Red Cross insisted it was standard practice to communicate with both sides. Fearing for the safety of staff, all foreign

BY ALEX DUVAL SMITH
in Freetown, Sierra Leone

charities, as well as the United Nations, pulled out non-Sierra Leonean workers.

A spokesman for a leading aid agency in Conakry, the capital of neighbouring Guinea, where most of the charities have based themselves, said yesterday that its relationship with Ecomog was poor.

"The Nigerians want to throw out the agencies in the belief that they will then be able to keep government aid for themselves. We have a terrible relationship with the Nigerians. They have no concept of the ideals that ICRC and others embrace," he said.

It was becoming clear yesterday that the rebels - Liberian-backed bush fighters trying to oust the elected president, Ahmed Tejan Kabbah - have either received reinforcements, or were not as roundly ousted from Freetown last week as Ecomog believed.

On Saturday, rebels shot Sister Aloysius Maria, from Kerala, India - one of six nuns they were holding hostage. - before fleeing advancing troops in Freetown.

In three weeks of fighting for control of Freetown, nearly 3,000 bodies have been buried in mass graves, and thousands of corpses are stacked in empty buildings. Kissy, Wellington and parts of the Eastend docks remain no-go areas, for volunteers collecting bodies.

The extent of fighting in the rest of Sierra Leone – especially in the diamond-rich areas of the north and east, where virtually every party in the fighting has a stake – is unclear.

The latest conflict - part of an eight-year civil war which has sent half the country's population of four million into exile - began on 6 January when fighters from bases near Liberia entered the capital.

Evolution invests some with an
envious peace of mind.



**The Laguna Alizé with 2 years' free servicing
and 0% finance.***

Every now and then evolution throws us a bit of a curve ball. The Renault Laguna Alizé hatchback and estate, for example, come with 2 years' free servicing* and 2 years' 0% finance*. Total peace of mind in a brutal dog eat dog world. Naturally you're thinking there has to be some trade off. Wrong. The Alizé has all the creature comforts you'd expect, like air-con, ABS, a 60 watt CD player, driver's airbag, electric sunroof and side impact protection bars. If you're finding all that hard to swallow, wait until you hear this. The Laguna Alizé 16V will cost you from just £14,700 on the road. Strange world, isn't it? For more information call 0800 525150.

The New Laguna



RENAULT

[illegible]

Yemen hostages: Tribe whose gang members face murder charges try to force their release by seizing Westerners

Protection racket killing led to kidnap

WHEN EDDY and Mary Rosser, two elderly British aid workers, were taken hostage in Yemen last week, their kidnapping was the latest episode in a string of events which began a month ago with the almost unnoticed murder of a shopkeeper in Sanaa, the Yemeni capital.

It is a story of strong tribal allegiances and a weak central government, which is the typical background to the kidnapping in Yemen in the Nineties. It also shows the difficulties facing negotiators who are trying to persuade the kidnappers to free Mr and Mrs Rosser along with Hans Koolstra, a Dutch aid worker, and his family.

BY PATRICK COCKBURN in Sanaa

It started when two men walked into the grocery store owned by Garyah al-Rayami on the airport road in the al-Jaraf district of Sanaa.

The street looks like any other in the city, with small shops facing the street and the gutters filled with rubbish. Less obvious is the fact that the district is controlled by the powerful Bakhil tribe, to which Mr Rayami's customers belonged.

There are two versions of his murder. The official one is that the two Bakhil tribesmen, one a relative of its ruling sheikh, asked for an item on a high shelf

in the shop. Mr Rayami, who had recently lost £50 to thieves, would have had to fetch a ladder to reach it, leaving his shop unattended for a moment. He refused to serve the two men. A quarrel started and one of the men shot Mr Rayami dead.

A simple, if brutal tale, but his neighbours have a different explanation of what happened. They say the two men from the Bakhil tribe were collecting protection money from non-Bakhil shopkeepers in the district and Mr Rayami, who did not belong to the tribe, refused to pay up and they killed him.

The alleged murderers were arrested, and it is the dropping

of the charges against them which is the chief demand of the kidnappers.

The Rosser and Koolstra families were seized on 17 January by other members of the Bakhil, most of whom live in their mountain redoubt north of Sanaa.

Curiously, one of the men accused of the crime is not in jail. It is a measure of the weakness of central government in Yemen that important people – and a relative of Sheikh Abdul-Aziz al-Shaef, the Bakhil's paramount leader, is very important – can hire a substitute to stay in prison in their stead when they are on remand. Nevertheless, the kidnappers want the government to drop the case.

Mr Rayami's family, who come from a village west of Sanaa and have no powerful protectors, are demanding that the murderers be executed.

Walking down the street where Mr Rayami died, it is difficult to believe that his relatives will get the justice they demand. His shop is shuttered and closed. It has two padlocks on the metal grille, one put there by the local sheikh and one by the dead man's family. Outside it lounge six well-dressed and heavily armed Bakhil tribesmen.

The message seems to be that if the family does not accept blood money rather than

insist on a trial, they will not get the shop back.

Enquiries among local people about the murder of Mr Rayami are not welcome. "Are you a journalist or an investigator?" asked one hostile shopkeeper, openly fingering his pistol. "Careful, or I'll call the boys from across the road," he said, adding: "I am a Bakhil. I don't want anything to do with the government."

Not all of Sanaa is so wholly ruled by a single tribe, though they are stronger in the city than they used to be. One local businessman said: "Twenty-five years ago tribesmen had to give up their sub-machine-guns at checkpoints around the city.

Now everybody carries one. I have one myself under the seat of my car for protection."

The government contends privately that the power of tribes such as the Bakhil and its influential neighbour the Hashid is not just the sign of an under-developed society. Both receive large monthly subsidies from the Office of Yemeni Affairs, which is part of Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Defence.

Most Yemenis believe that Saudi Arabia wants to keep Yemen, its historic rival in the Arabian Peninsula, weak by financing the tribes. They also see the kidnaps as serving the Saudi aim of keeping Yemen diplomatically isolated.

Unfortunately for Mr and Mrs Rosser and the Koolstra family, the tribes have learnt that when it comes to putting pressure on the government, nothing is as effective as kidnapping foreigners.

■ The five Britons and one man using a French passport arrested last month in Yemen and charged with planning an Islamic guerrilla campaign there will be put on trial on Wednesday, a Yemeni official said yesterday.

Yemen said the six men have admitted possessing illegal weapons and intending to commit murder. But the men's lawyer said they had denied the charges.

Eleven die in revenge attack

NELSON MANDELA, President of South Africa, cancelled a visit to Uganda yesterday after a political assassination and an apparent revenge massacre shattered a pre-election truce in KwaZulu-Natal province.

Sifiso Nkabinde, leader of the United Democratic Movement (UDM), was shot dead in the town of Richmond on Saturday. Hours later, 11 people were killed and eight wounded in a revenge attack on members of the ruling African National Congress (ANC).

More than 800 police and soldiers blanketed the small town yesterday, firing tear gas to disperse youths who had burnt down two houses.

"It's such a high-profile assassination that it is proper for the President to be in the country and be properly briefed," said Mr Mandela's spokesman, Parks Mankahlana.

A police spokesman said a convoy that included the provincial health minister, Zweli Mkhize, came under fire in the centre of Richmond yesterday. No one in Mr Mkhize's party was hurt, but police arrested five of the attackers after a gunfight in which two were wounded.



UDM supporters take cover after shots were fired at a township near Richmond as ANC groups sought retribution for the slaughter of 11 of their members Karel Prinsloo

Our Transporter warranty runs and runs.

(Sort of appropriate really.)

There are three things you're guaranteed of with our Transporter. A van that's reliable, solid, durable. Still, human nature being what it is, we realise you can't have reassurance enough. To which end, we've extended our driveline warranty from one year to three. Or up to 125,000 miles (whichever comes first). Either way, it gives you engine and running gear cover to see you down the long road ahead. This, of course, is over and above our standard warranty, with its 3-year paintwork cover. Not to mention its 8-year anti-perforation cover. Nor is that all. Our warranty extends even further. To include our Caravelle and Multivan. In another respect, though, it's distinctly limited. Our offer expires 31st March, 1999. And not a day later. But frankly, we can't see you hesitating. Especially now you realise you can run to a Volkswagen.

DEALER STARTS 1ST JANUARY 1999 AND ENDS 31ST MARCH 1999. THIS IS ONLY AVAILABLE FROM THE APPOINTED VOLKSWAGEN VAN CENTRE. CONTACT YOUR VAN CENTRE FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS. OFFER EXCLUDES MOTOCYCLES. FOR THE ONE NEAREST YOU, CALL 0800 71 71 31.

www.volkswagen.co.uk

Commercial Vehicles

Le Pen 'tried and deposed' by rebels

BY JOHN LICHFIELD in Marignane

THE PRESIDENT was briskly impeached and removed from office yesterday. President Le Pen, that is.

By a majority of Third World proportions, Bruno Mégret, the rising power of the French far right, was installed as president of one half of an irretrievably fractured National Front (NF).

Jean-Marie Le Pen, aged 70, the party's founder president, was tried in his absence for high crimes and misdemeanours, ranging from cronyism to racism, making puns in bad taste and poor television performances.

Mr Le Pen described the rebels from afar as "embittered ingrates and loonies of every stripe". The NF's enemies could not have come up with a more wounding insult.

A two-day conference of Mr Mégret's followers at Marignane near Marseilles claimed legitimacy as the "eleventh congress" of the party. The congress was anxious to present itself as a new, less brutal, more responsible and more democratic strain of the French ultra-right. But old instincts die hard. Most of the 2,500 delegates, though not all, booed and bayed with approval when the founder-president of the NF was put through a mock, and mocking, trial in which "le chef" was represented by a spotlit, empty, plastic chair.

Mr Mégret's wind-up speech – received with rhythmic stamping, chanting and flag-waving of which Le Pen would have been proud – pledged to cleanse the party of "morbid and sick obsessions". However, Mr Mégret, 49, said that there was no question of "watering the wine". He would rid the NF of Le Pen's "excesses, derailments, provocations and ill-conceived puns", but the reborn NF would stick to its core values. These turned out to be "defence of national identity" through mass repatriation of immigrants; a more repressive and morally intrusive

state; and the repeal of all French commitments to the European Union.

The Mégret wing of the party – to be called "Front National Mouvement National" – claims to be patriotic rather than xenophobic; to be more concerned with the threats of the present (immigration, globalism, American cultural imperialism, European federalism) than the demons of the past. However, Mr Mégret, elected president of the breakaway party with 97.5 per cent of the vote, also appealed directly and crudely to racial fears. "I think," he said, "of the market near here where young North Africans are the overwhelming majority and the only French people that you meet are a few old ladies, walking with their heads down."

Earlier, one of Mr Mégret's lieutenants, Franck Timmermans, read the impeachment charges against Le Pen. The overthrowing of "le chef" was presented as a democratic rebellion by the grassroots and "live forces" of the party. Mr Timmermans said Le Pen listened only to a small band of "parasites, profiteers and opportunist courtiers."

Independent estimates give Mr Mégret the great majority of the party's elected officials and local activists, but only one in three of its voters. In the European election in June, he needs to pass the 5 per cent threshold for gaining seats and public funds. If his movement is not to struggle, Polls suggest he has 4 per cent.

Sociologically, Marignane was an interesting gathering, more youthful to middle-aged and more middle-class, better educated, and better off than a typical pre-scholar NF rally. There were older people, including a surprising number of old ladies with dogs. But they tended, on inquiry, to be converts from Gaullism rather than the Vichy sympathisers or the Algerian colonial diehards who provided two of the main tributaries of Lepennism.

"Le Pen is the past," said Tony Laquin, 32, from Calais. "Le Pen is obsessed with the Second World War, with Jewish and Freemasons' plots. All that stuff means nothing to younger people on the right."

There are two ways of interpreting the weekend's events. One, the French far-right – after an unusual period of unity under the charismatic umbrella of Le Pen – has returned to the obsessive internal strife of the Thirties and Fifties. It will, for the foreseeable future, cease to be a power in the land. Two, the French far-right is regrouping and reforming into what may prove to be a better packaged, a more telegenic, a more insidiously menacing challenge to traditional French politics.

In the meantime there will be a vicious legal and physical, settling of accounts.

"At local level, there is enmity between activists who have worked together for years," said Raymond Lacombe, 62, from the Ardennes. "As Lenin said, the most bloody political battles are always with the people who think most like you."

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

MADE ST. LONDON E6 4SA
(02045) 411 111

For all your needs and wishes, we have a friendly staff to help you. We are able to bring peace, care and comfort to the terminally ill so that death may indeed come with a friendly care.

St. Joseph's Hospice

Ran only mad

THE INDEPENDENT
A JOURNAL OF LITERATURE

...the book...
...the book...
...the book...

McGrath

IT WASN'T until he expected Sri Lanka to win the mountain...
...the book...
...the book...

SOUTHW

1.00 Squandamania 1.30 All
2.00 Miss All Alone 2.30 DAHLI
Most Respectful 3.30 King Pri

GONG STALLS: 15-16
DRAW ADVANTAGE: 17-18
FORTUNE TELLER: 19-20 and 21-22
CARAVAN: 23-24 and 25-26
CARAVAN: 27-28 and 29-30
CARAVAN: 31-32 and 33-34
CARAVAN: 35-36 and 37-38
CARAVAN: 39-40 and 41-42
CARAVAN: 43-44 and 45-46
CARAVAN: 47-48 and 49-50
CARAVAN: 51-52 and 53-54
CARAVAN: 55-56 and 57-58
CARAVAN: 59-60 and 61-62
CARAVAN: 63-64 and 65-66
CARAVAN: 67-68 and 69-70
CARAVAN: 71-72 and 73-74
CARAVAN: 75-76 and 77-78
CARAVAN: 79-80 and 81-82
CARAVAN: 83-84 and 85-86
CARAVAN: 87-88 and 89-90
CARAVAN: 91-92 and 93-94
CARAVAN: 95-96 and 97-98
CARAVAN: 99-100 and 101-102
CARAVAN: 103-104 and 105-106
CARAVAN: 107-108 and 109-110
CARAVAN: 111-112 and 113-114
CARAVAN: 115-116 and 117-118
CARAVAN: 119-120 and 121-122
CARAVAN: 123-124 and 125-126
CARAVAN: 127-128 and 129-130
CARAVAN: 131-132 and 133-134
CARAVAN: 135-136 and 137-138
CARAVAN: 139-140 and 141-142
CARAVAN: 143-144 and 145-146
CARAVAN: 147-148 and 149-150
CARAVAN: 151-152 and 153-154
CARAVAN: 155-156 and 157-158
CARAVAN: 159-160 and 161-162
CARAVAN: 163-164 and 165-166
CARAVAN: 167-168 and 169-170
CARAVAN: 171-172 and 173-174
CARAVAN: 175-176 and 177-178
CARAVAN: 179-180 and 181-182
CARAVAN: 183-184 and 185-186
CARAVAN: 187-188 and 189-190
CARAVAN: 191-192 and 193-194
CARAVAN: 195-196 and 197-198
CARAVAN: 199-200 and 201-202
CARAVAN: 203-204 and 205-206
CARAVAN: 207-208 and 209-210
CARAVAN: 211-212 and 213-214
CARAVAN: 215-216 and 217-218
CARAVAN: 219-220 and 221-222
CARAVAN: 223-224 and 225-226
CARAVAN: 227-228 and 229-230
CARAVAN: 231-232 and 233-234
CARAVAN: 235-236 and 237-238
CARAVAN: 239-240 and 241-242
CARAVAN: 243-244 and 245-246
CARAVAN: 247-248 and 249-250
CARAVAN: 251-252 and 253-254
CARAVAN: 255-256 and 257-258
CARAVAN: 259-260 and 261-262
CARAVAN: 263-264 and 265-266
CARAVAN: 267-268 and 269-270
CARAVAN: 271-272 and 273-274
CARAVAN: 275-276 and 277-278
CARAVAN: 279-280 and 281-282
CARAVAN: 283-284 and 285-286
CARAVAN: 287-288 and 289-290
CARAVAN: 291-292 and 293-294
CARAVAN: 295-296 and 297-298
CARAVAN: 299-300 and 301-302
CARAVAN: 303-304 and 305-306
CARAVAN: 307-308 and 309-310
CARAVAN: 311-312 and 313-314
CARAVAN: 315-316 and 317-318
CARAVAN: 319-320 and 321-322
CARAVAN: 323-324 and 325-326
CARAVAN: 327-328 and 329-330
CARAVAN: 331-332 and 333-334
CARAVAN: 335-336 and 337-338
CARAVAN: 339-340 and 341-342
CARAVAN: 343-344 and 345-346
CARAVAN: 347-348 and 349-350
CARAVAN: 351-352 and 353-354
CARAVAN: 355-356 and 357-358
CARAVAN: 359-360 and 361-362
CARAVAN: 363-364 and 365-366
CARAVAN: 367-368 and 369-370
CARAVAN: 371-372 and 373-374
CARAVAN: 375-376 and 377-378
CARAVAN: 379-380 and 381-382
CARAVAN: 383-384 and 385-386
CARAVAN: 387-388 and 389-390
CARAVAN: 391-392 and 393-394
CARAVAN: 395-396 and 397-398
CARAVAN: 399-400 and 401-402
CARAVAN: 403-404 and 405-406
CARAVAN: 407-408 and 409-410
CARAVAN: 411-412 and 413-414
CARAVAN: 415-416 and 417-418
CARAVAN: 419-420 and 421-422
CARAVAN: 423-424 and 425-426
CARAVAN: 427-428 and 429-430
CARAVAN: 431-432 and 433-434
CARAVAN: 435-436 and 437-438
CARAVAN: 439-440 and 441-442
CARAVAN: 443-444 and 445-446
CARAVAN: 447-448 and 449-450
CARAVAN: 451-452 and 453-454
CARAVAN: 455-456 and 457-458
CARAVAN: 459-460 and 461-462
CARAVAN: 463-464 and 465-466
CARAVAN: 467-468 and 469-470
CARAVAN: 471-472 and 473-474
CARAVAN: 475-476 and 477-478
CARAVAN: 479-480 and 481-482
CARAVAN: 483-484 and 485-486
CARAVAN: 487-488 and 489-490
CARAVAN: 491-492 and 493-494
CARAVAN: 495-496 and 497-498
CARAVAN: 499-500 and 501-502
CARAVAN: 503-504 and 505-506
CARAVAN: 507-508 and 509-510
CARAVAN: 511-512 and 513-514
CARAVAN: 515-516 and 517-518
CARAVAN: 519-520 and 521-522
CARAVAN: 523-524 and 525-526
CARAVAN: 527-528 and 529-530
CARAVAN: 531-532 and 533-534
CARAVAN: 535-536 and 537-538
CARAVAN: 539-540 and 541-542
CARAVAN: 543-544 and 545-546
CARAVAN: 547-548 and 549-550
CARAVAN: 551-552 and 553-554
CARAVAN: 555-556 and 557-558
CARAVAN: 559-560 and 561-562
CARAVAN: 563-564 and 565-566
CARAVAN: 567-568 and 569-570
CARAVAN: 571-572 and 573-574
CARAVAN: 575-576 and 577-578
CARAVAN: 579-580 and 581-582
CARAVAN: 583-584 and 585-586
CARAVAN: 587-588 and 589-590
CARAVAN: 591-592 and 593-594
CARAVAN: 595-596 and 597-598
CARAVAN: 599-600 and 601-602
CARAVAN: 603-604 and 605-606
CARAVAN: 607-608 and 609-610
CARAVAN: 611-612 and 613-614
CARAVAN: 615-616 and 617-618
CARAVAN: 619-620 and 621-622
CARAVAN: 623-624 and 625-626
CARAVAN: 627-628 and 629-630
CARAVAN: 631-632 and 633-634
CARAVAN: 635-636 and 637-638
CARAVAN: 639-640 and 641-642
CARAVAN: 643-644 and 645-646
CARAVAN: 647-648 and 649-650
CARAVAN: 651-652 and 653-654
CARAVAN: 655-656 and 657-658
CARAVAN: 659-660 and 661-662
CARAVAN: 663-664 and 665-666
CARAVAN: 667-668 and 669-670
CARAVAN: 671-672 and 673-674
CARAVAN: 675-676 and 677-678
CARAVAN: 679-680 and 681-682
CARAVAN: 683-684 and 685-686
CARAVAN: 687-688 and 689-690
CARAVAN: 691-692 and 693-694
CARAVAN: 695-696 and 697-698
CARAVAN: 699-700 and 701-702
CARAVAN: 703-704 and 705-706
CARAVAN: 707-708 and 709-710
CARAVAN: 711-712 and 713-714
CARAVAN: 715-716 and 717-718
CARAVAN: 719-720 and 721-722
CARAVAN: 723-724 and 725-726
CARAVAN: 727-728 and 729-730
CARAVAN: 731-732 and 733-734
CARAVAN: 735-736 and 737-738
CARAVAN: 739-740 and 741-742
CARAVAN: 743-744 and 745-746
CARAVAN: 747-748 and 749-750
CARAVAN: 751-752 and 753-754
CARAVAN: 755-756 and 757-758
CARAVAN: 759-760 and 761-762
CARAVAN: 763-764 and 765-766
CARAVAN: 767-768 and 769-770
CARAVAN: 771-772 and 773-774
CARAVAN: 775-776 and 777-778
CARAVAN: 779-780 and 781-782
CARAVAN: 783-784 and 785-786
CARAVAN: 787-788 and 789-790
CARAVAN: 791-792 and 793-794
CARAVAN: 795-796 and 797-798
CARAVAN: 799-800 and 801-802
CARAVAN: 803-804 and 805-806
CARAVAN: 807-808 and 809-810
CARAVAN: 811-812 and 813-814
CARAVAN: 815-816 and 817-818
CARAVAN: 819-820 and 821-822
CARAVAN: 823-824 and 825-826
CARAVAN: 827-828 and 829-830
CARAVAN: 831-832 and 833-834
CARAVAN: 835-836 and 837-838
CARAVAN: 839-840 and 841-842
CARAVAN: 843-844 and 845-846
CARAVAN: 847-848 and 849-850
CARAVAN: 851-852 and 853-854
CARAVAN: 855-856 and 857-858
CARAVAN: 859-860 and 861-862
CARAVAN: 863-864 and 865-866
CARAVAN: 867-868 and 869-870
CARAVAN: 871-872 and 873-874
CARAVAN: 875-876 and 877-878
CARAVAN: 879-880 and 881-882
CARAVAN: 883-884 and 885-886
CARAVAN: 887-888 and 889-890
CARAVAN: 891-892 and 893-894
CARAVAN: 895-896 and 897-898
CARAVAN: 899-900 and 901-902
CARAVAN: 903-904 and 905-906
CARAVAN: 907-908 and 909-910
CARAVAN: 911-912 and 913-914
CARAVAN: 915-916 and 917-918
CARAVAN: 919-920 and 921-922
CARAVAN: 923-924 and 925-926
CARAVAN: 927-928 and 929-930
CARAVAN: 931-932 and 933-934
CARAVAN: 935-936 and 937-938
CARAVAN: 939-940 and 941-942
CARAVAN: 943-944 and 945-946
CARAVAN: 947-948 and 949-950
CARAVAN: 951-952 and 953-954
CARAVAN: 955-956 and 957-958
CARAVAN: 959-960 and 961-962
CARAVAN: 963-964 and 965-966
CARAVAN: 967-968 and 969-970
CARAVAN: 971-972 and 973-974
CARAVAN: 975-976 and 977-978
CARAVAN: 979-980 and 981-982
CARAVAN: 983-984 and 985-986
CARAVAN: 987-988 and 989-990
CARAVAN: 991-992 and 993-994
CARAVAN: 995-996 and 997-998
CARAVAN: 999-1000 and 1001-1002
CARAVAN: 1003-1004 and 1005-1006
CARAVAN: 1007-1008 and 1009-1010
CARAVAN: 1011-1012 and 1013-1014
CARAVAN: 1015-1016 and 1017-1018
CARAVAN: 1019-1020 and 1021-1022
CARAVAN: 1023-1024 and 1025-1026
CARAVAN: 1027-1028 and 1029-1030
CARAVAN: 1031-1032 and 1033-1034
CARAVAN: 1035-1036 and 1037-1038
CARAVAN: 1039-1040 and 1041-1042
CARAVAN: 1043-1044 and 1045-1046
CARAVAN: 1047-1048 and 1049-1050
CARAVAN: 1051-1052 and 1053-1054
CARAVAN: 1055-1056 and 1057-1058
CARAVAN: 1059-1060 and 1061-1062
CARAVAN: 1063-1064 and 1065-1066
CARAVAN: 1067-1068 and 1069-1070
CARAVAN: 1071-1072 and 1073-1074
CARAVAN: 1075-1076 and 1077-1078
CARAVAN: 1079-1080 and 1081-1082
CARAVAN: 1083-1084 and 1085-1086
CARAVAN: 1087-1088 and 1089-1090
CARAVAN: 1091-1092 and 1093-1094
CARAVAN: 1095-1096 and 1097-1098
CARAVAN: 1099-1100 and 1101-1102
CARAVAN: 1103-1104 and 1105-1106
CARAVAN: 1107-1108 and 1109-1110
CARAVAN: 1111-1112 and 1113-1114
CARAVAN: 1115-1116 and 1117-1118
CARAVAN: 1119-1120 and 1121-1122
CARAVAN: 1123-1124 and 1125-1126
CARAVAN: 1127-1128 and 1129-1130
CARAVAN: 1131-1132 and 1133-1134
CARAVAN: 1135-1136 and 1137-1138
CARAVAN: 1139-1140 and 1141-1142
CARAVAN: 1143-1144 and 1145-1146
CARAVAN: 1147-1148 and 1149-1150
CARAVAN: 1151-1152 and 1153-1154
CARAVAN: 1155-1156 and 1157-1158
CARAVAN: 1159-1160 and 1161-1162
CARAVAN: 1163-1164 and 1165-1166
CARAVAN: 1167-1168 and 1169-1170
CARAVAN: 1171-1172 and 1173-1174
CARAVAN: 1175-1176 and 1177-1178
CARAVAN: 1179-1180 and 1181-1182
CARAVAN: 1183-1184 and 1185-1186
CARAVAN: 1187-1188 and 1189-1190
CARAVAN: 1191-1192 and 1193-1194
CARAVAN: 1195-1196 and 1197-1198
CARAVAN: 1199-1200 and 1201-1202
CARAVAN: 1203-1204 and 1205-1206
CARAVAN: 1207-1208 and 1209-1210
CARAVAN: 1211-1212 and 1213-1214
CARAVAN: 1215-1216 and 1217-1218
CARAVAN: 1219-1220 and 1221-1222
CARAVAN: 1223-1224 and 1225-1226
CARAVAN: 1227-1228 and 1229-1230
CARAVAN: 1231-1232 and 1233-1234
CARAVAN: 1235-1236 and 1237-1238
CARAVAN: 1239-1240 and 1241-1242
CARAVAN: 1243-1244 and 1245-1246
CARAVAN: 1247-1248 and 1249-1250
CARAVAN: 1251-1252 and 1253-1254
CARAVAN: 1255-1256 and 1257-1258
CARAVAN: 1259-1260 and 1261-1262
CARAVAN: 1263-1264 and 1265-1266
CARAVAN: 1267-1268 and 1269-1270
CARAVAN: 1271-1272 and 1273-1274
CARAVAN: 1275-1276 and 1277-1278
CARAVAN: 1279-1280 and 1281-1282
CARAVAN: 1283-1284 and 1285-1286
CARAVAN: 1287-1288 and 1289-1290
CARAVAN: 1291-1292 and 1293-1294
CARAVAN: 1295-1296 and 1297-1298
CARAVAN: 1299-1300 and 1301-1302
CARAVAN: 1303-1304 and 1305-1306
CARAVAN: 1307-1308 and 1309-1310
CARAVAN: 1311-1312 and 1313-1314
CARAVAN: 1315-1316 and 1317-1318
CARAVAN: 1319-1320 and 1321-1322
CARAVAN: 1323-1324 and 1325-1326
CARAVAN: 1327-1328 and 1329-1330
CARAVAN: 1331-1332 and 1333-1334
CARAVAN: 1335-1336 and 1337-1338
CARAVAN: 1339-1340 and 1341-1342
CARAVAN: 1343-1344 and 1345-1346
CARAVAN: 1347-1348 and 1349-1350
CARAVAN: 1351-1352 and 1353-1354
CARAVAN: 1355-1356 and 1357-1358
CARAVAN: 1359-1360 and 1361-1362
CARAVAN: 1363-1364 and 1365-1366
CARAVAN: 1367-1368 and 1369-1370
CARAVAN: 1371-1372 and 1373-1374
CARAVAN: 1375-1376 and 1377-1378
CARAVAN: 1379-1380 and 1381-1382
CARAVAN: 1383-1384 and 1385-1386
CARAVAN: 1387



A rally in Calcutta yesterday calling for action to catch the killers of Graham Staines and his sons, Philip, 10 and Timothy, eight

Bikas Das/AP

Hindu mob burns missionary and two young sons to death

AN AUSTRALIAN missionary and his two sons were murdered in Orissa, central eastern India, when a large mob armed with bows and arrows surrounded the car in which they were sleeping early on Saturday, doused it in paraffin and set it on fire. Villagers who tried to come to their rescue were also attacked.

The murder of Dr Graham Staines, 58, and his sons, Philip, 10, and Timothy, eight, marked a dramatic escalation of the terror campaign against Christians which began last year after the general election brought a coalition government led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to power.

Witnesses at the scene of Saturday's atrocity told reporters that the crowd was chanting slogans including "Bajrang Dal Zindabad" - "Long live Bajrang Dal" - as they pelted the Staines' vehicle with stones before setting it alight.

The Bajrang Dal is an extreme Hindu nationalist organisation linked to the BJP,

BY PETER POPHAM
in New Delhi

which gained international attention last year when one of its leaders called for all foreign missionaries in India to be expelled. A local Bajrang Dal activist, Darah Singh, has been named by police as the suspected ringleader of the murders, and a reward has been offered for information leading to his arrest.

Dr Staines, who had lived and worked in India since 1964, had driven with his sons some 15km from his home to the village of Manoharpur, in an area predominantly populated by tribal Christians, to participate in a Christian camp. The camp was due to finish yesterday.

Dr Staines, secretary and treasurer of the Evangelical Missionary Society in the area, had been working with fellow missionaries to eradicate leprosy from the state. Since 1982 he had been director of a local leprosy hospital.

He had focused his life's work on one of the most spec-

tacular but also most undeveloped regions of India, where a quarter of the population consists of Adivasis, "ancient inhabitants" or tribespeople.

The rugged hills, among the oldest in the world, are still densely forested, roads are primitive and the incursions of civilisation are few.

Because of the primitive conditions, Dr Staines was in the habit of bedding down in his jeep when travelling out of his normal area of operation, and he, Philip and Timothy had piled straw on the roof of the jeep to keep out the winter chill before going to sleep.

The straw had a ghastly utility which they could not have foreseen. When they woke, the car was surrounded by a frenzied mob, said by witnesses to have been 50 to 100 strong. Repeatedly the missionary and his children tried to break out of the car, but repeatedly they were forced back in. Then the mob poured kerosene over the vehicle and set it alight. The three bodies were reportedly reduced to ashes.

Dr Staines' wife, Gladys, was informed of the deaths of her husband and children by telephone at 4am on Saturday. The couple also have a 13-year-old daughter, Aister.

Mrs Staines told reporters that her husband "did not have one enemy in the world, and that's what makes this mind-numbing deed all the more surprising".

She said she was "shocked but not angry" and told Evangelical church authorities she feared that "local RSS was involved" in the murder.

The RSS - Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh - to which both the Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, and the Home Minister, L K Advani, belong, is a paramilitary Hindu nationalist organisation. On Sunday, Mr Vajpayee said he condemned the murders and that those responsible should be punished severely. Police in Orissa arrested 47 people suspected of involvement.

The grisly murders in Orissa take the persecution of India's small minority of Christ-

ians - 2.5 per cent of the population, according to the 1991 census - to a new pitch of gravity and horror.

Attacks on Christians by nationalists, many occurring in the state of Gujarat in the west of the country, have multiplied in the past month, starting with an attack on Christmas Day. Since then more than 30 churches have been destroyed. Two more were ransacked in Surat on Friday night, allegedly in retaliation for an attack on a Hindu temple. But this is the first case of murder to be reported.

Mr Vajpayee is under increasing international pressure to take action against the extremist allies of his party who are responsible. In the past few days, the US Deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbott, has added his voice to those of the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, and other European ministers in condemning the anti-Christian violence.

However, Mr Vajpayee's party stands to benefit electorally if tribal Christians - most attacks have been in tribal areas - can be terrorised back into the Hindu nationalist camp.

Cricket clash tests a nation

CITY LIFE
NEW DELHI

THE POLITICS of personal disruption are a hallmark of life in New Delhi. Usually tolerated with relative good humour, these workaday annoyances have suddenly escalated beyond endurance.

The people of the capital, long-suffering though they may be, won't let anyone mess with the cricket. Cricket is an obsession in the sub-continent and fans are truly fanatics.

The batsman Sachin Tendulkar and his Indian eleven loom like demi-gods from hoardings and are imitated on every strip of grass or alleyway by energetic amateurs and schoolboys alike. Whenever an important match is broadcast, the streets empty while people cluster around radios or televisions. Traffic virtually stops. Pride is on the line.

So when the Pakistan national team, nattily turned out in green blazers, finally rolled into the capital this week after first sending in a decoy bus to distract their potential attackers, the excitement was overwhelming. So was the security.

Elaborate searches have become routine and khaki-clad women police officers, most with icy fingers, keep patting me down at the airport or disco. The Pakistani cricketers are keen on Bangra, it seems, and nearly all the team showed up for ladies' night on the dance floor.

More police, armed with bamboo staves, stand shoulder to shoulder on Delhi's main streets. Are they anticipating the crack of leather on willow or the crack of clubs on demonstrators' heads? Muddling up sport with Indian politics and religious disputes is sending up the blood pressure of volatile cricket fans everywhere, but especially in Delhi.

Hindu radicals from the Shiv Sena party, who view the Islamic nation across the border as a nest for irredeemable enemies, have

been campaigning all month to prevent a long-awaited Test series between India and Pakistan. "You play sports with your friends, not with enemies," their slogans read. Fans on both sides of the border gnash their teeth at spoilsport antics by these political fanatics.

The Shiv Sena maintains that cricket fans are anti-nationalist, and their tactics haven't been subtle. In the south, a severed pig's head - anathema to devout Muslims - was tossed on to a cricket ground. More vandals broke in and ransacked the cricket board's offices.

In Delhi, five saboteurs from the Shiv Sena dug up the manicured square of the cricket pitch at Feroze Shah Kotla stadium, and shouted anti-Muslim slogans while rain muddled the ruts. The national stadium was reduced to a quagmire.

Millions of cricket fans grew so incensed that the Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, who promised to safeguard the cricketers for the first Indo-Pakistan Test in a dozen years, is under extreme pressure. He dispatched his home minister, Lal Krishna Advani, who once incited zealots to tear down a mosque in Ayodhya with their bare hands, to plead with the Shiv Sena supremo to allow play to begin.

Advani's sudden "air-dash" from Delhi to Bombay did the trick. Reports that the Bharatiya Janata party leader got down on his knees to beg for Shiv Sena thugs to be called off were greeted with nods of approval.

Although police arrested 18 people in Delhi for vandalising the pitch, more trouble is expected. Jai Bhagwan Goyal, who heads the Delhi branch of Shiv Sena, or Shiva's Army, disappeared after he threatened: "We will bomb. If that's what is needed to stop the match, we will blow the pitch."

JAN MCGIRK

Lost your rag with your bank?



A slap in the face with a beer soaked rag, or £20? Which would you prefer? The Norfolk Dwylls Flonkers enjoy the odd slap in the face, but even they would see the sense in the Alliance Current Account. It gives you:

- £20 when you open your account
- Free banking!
- Low authorised overdraft rates with NO monthly fees
- 24 hour telephone banking
- Generous credit interest rates

So do the sensible thing and call us today to apply.

SAVE OVER £70 WHEN USING A £200 OVERDRAFT FOR A YEAR	
Barclays Bank Account	£97.60
Lloyds Bank Account	£97.60
NatWest Current Account	£95.60

Alliance
Leicester

Common sense in a crazy world

To get £20* call free today
0500 95 95 95

*Quoting net NC1009
All applicants must be aged 18 years and over and agree to pay a minimum deposit of £200 into their account. Applications and overdrafts are subject to credit checks. Where necessary, an overdraft is available on request. Three banking when in credit. 2.9% gross p.a. (APR 2.95%) paid on credit balances of £5,000 and over. Interest rates are variable. Rates quoted apply to authorised overdrafts. *To qualify for the £20 offer, you must fund your account within 2 months of the opening of the account. For security and banking purposes telephone calls between you and Alliance Leicester or its subsidiaries must be recorded or monitored, Alliance Leicester plc, Registered Office: 40 Park Lane, London, W1K 1QA. Interest rates and charges quoted in Moneyfacts January 1999 as follows: Barclays Bank Account: 1.45% per month (17.4% APR); Lloyds Bank Account: 1.45% per month (17.4% APR); NatWest Current Account: 1.45% per month (17.4% APR). All overdrafts are subject to a 2% monthly fee. All overdrafts are subject to a 2% monthly fee. All overdrafts are subject to a 2% monthly fee.

Kosovo rebels released in secret deal

NINE IMPRISONED ethnic Albanian rebels were released from custody in Kosovo at the weekend, fulfilling a secret deal under which, two weeks ago, the rebels freed eight Yugoslav soldiers they had captured.

The Yugoslav government, which denied any such deal, has not acknowledged the release, which took place on Saturday. But William Walker, the chief international peace verifier, said members of his group had witnessed the release.

The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which manages the Kosovo peace verification force, welcomed the release as an "act of good will".

"It is the hope of [the verifiers] that this and similar gestures from both sides will help to create an atmosphere conducive to the achievement of a lasting political settlement of the conflict through negotiation," the OSCE said.

But at least two of the released prisoners planned to return to the front lines as soon as possible. "This is not a crime, this is fighting for the freedom of our country," said Azem Suma, 26. Sitting in a bombed-out house in Likovac, Mr Suma and another released prisoner, 21-year-old Sahmet Ballazha, said that they had all been beaten and couldn't believe they were still alive.

"I can't explain with words

BY MELISSA EDDY

how they treated us. I can't describe the trauma," Mr Suma said as his comrade sat by quietly, looking shell-shocked.

Commanders of the Kosovo Liberation Army told reporters at their headquarters in this central Kosovo village that all nine, including a 16-year-old girl who worked as a military nurse, were generally healthy but showed some signs of having been roughly up.

Meanwhile Western powers will seek to agree this week on a tough new take-it-or-leave-it strategy for halting the conflict in Kosovo, hoping that Russia will agree to back it.

Details of the plan are sketchy, but it appears to centre on a concerted bid to force both sides to accept what they so far have refused to negotiate: Yugoslavia would have to grant self-government or face bombing; Kosovo's Albanians would have to shelve independence demands or go it alone.

How this can be implemented may become a little clearer today when EU foreign ministers hold regular consultations in Brussels, with Kosovo dominating the agenda.

Four countries from the six-power Contact Group - France, Britain, Germany and Italy - will be represented at the talks.

The fifth and sixth, Russia and the United States, are to hold discussions in Moscow later in the week. (AP)

Our Most Powerful PCs

with nothing to pay until the Year 2000

Buy any of these Time 'Ultimate PC' systems at Sale Prices and get 12 months Interest Free Credit with not a penny to pay until the Year 2000!

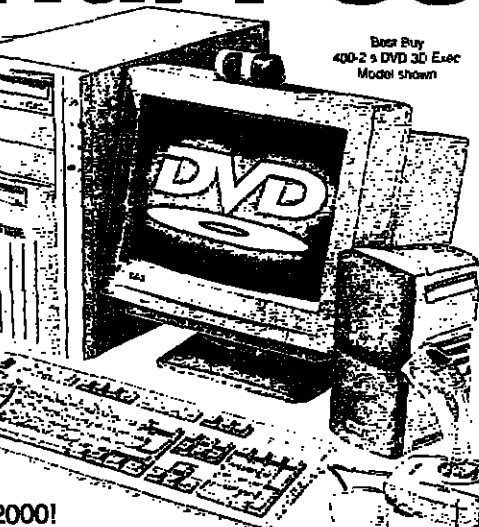
- UltimatePC 400-2 DVD**
- 400MHz Intel Pentium II Processor
 - 128Mb SDRAM
 - 10.1Gb UDMA hard disk
 - DVD-ROM drive x4 and SoftDVD decoder
 - 15" digital colour screen (17" optional extra)
 - 6Mb ATI AGP-2 3D Graphics
 - SoundBlaster 54 3D PCI WaveTable
 - 56K PCI voice modem
 - Premium speaker system (not shown)
 - Windows 95, Lotus SmartSuite Millennium & IBM ViaVoice 98 Executive Speech Recognition
 - FREE PC-TV System
 - FREE Teletext and Video Capture
 - All standard features below

£995 **£1169.13** inc VAT
450-2 DVD Model: £1145 + VAT = £1345.38 with 450MHz Intel Pentium II processor

Standard Features on all models: All Backup CDs, 512K cache, 1.44Mb floppy drive, Microsoft Intellipoint mouse, keyboard, fully Win98 and year 2000 compliant, 60 minute VHS video/training guide.

Extra Models also include Joystick, gamepad, microphone and over 13 extra CD software titles and 5 top games for only £99 + VAT = £116.33 extra. Product codes: See page 31 of our PC Buyer's Guide.

TIME
we're on your side



- UltimatePC 'S' 400-2s DVD 3D**
- 400MHz AMD K6-2 3D Processor
 - 128Mb SDRAM • 13Gb UDMA hard disk
 - DVD-ROM drive x4 and SoftDVD decoder
 - 17" digital colour screen (19" optional extra)
 - 6Mb ATI AGP-2 3D Graphics
 - SoundBlaster 54 3D PCI WaveTable
 - 56K PCI voice modem
 - Executive Subwoofer speaker system (shown)
 - Windows 95, Lotus SmartSuite Millennium & IBM ViaVoice 98 Executive Speech Recognition
 - FREE PC-TV System
 - FREE Teletext and Video Capture
 - FREE Colour videophone camera (limited offer)
 - All standard features below

£1185 **£1392.38** inc VAT
450-2 s DVD Model: £1445 + VAT = £1697.88 with 450MHz Intel Pentium II processor, 256Mb RAM, new look case and LS-120 superfloppy drive (excludes 3D Now!).

UltimatePC

Our highest performance PC system includes these superb features for just £1185 + VAT:

Fastest 3D Processor
The latest 400MHz AMD K6-2 3D Processor together with 128Mb SDRAM and 10.1Gb UDMA hard disk graphics outperforms our 450MHz standard PC system.

3D Now! Technology
This system includes 3D Now! Technology which enhances 3D performance to deliver like the display, and superb gaming experience.

128Mb SDRAM
More RAM memory is the biggest factor which increases overall performance and it lets you run several programs at the same time.

13Gb Hard Disk
Lack of storage is the most common reason for PC upgrades and this massive high speed 13Gb unit makes your PC more future-proof.

DVD System
Latest DVD 4x system with SoftDVD decoder and MPEG-2 playback allows you to play run the best software and full-featured DVD movies.

17" Digital Screen
The very best 17" digital SVGA colour screen is included for exceptional display quality for all your applications.

PC-TV System
FREE PC-TV system with Teletext and video capture allows you to watch TV on your PC.

Videophone Camera
FREE Digital video camera (RPP £74.99) and videophone capability allows you to use your PC for video conferencing.



FreePhone Time today Offers end 31st January

0800 77 1107

120 stores nationwide. For store details call 0800 316 2 317

Direct Sales Lines Open: Monday - Friday 9.30am - 8pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm
Time Computer Systems Ltd, Gannett House, Blaxdown Rd, Smeeth, Leicestershire, LE12 7DT. For further information call 01530 77 07 01. Send no money now! No VAT. Prices exclude courier delivery charge which varies with destination. UK mainland (excluding Scottish Highlands) is £24 + VAT = £29.36. Prices, specifications and offers are subject to change, availability and to our Conditions of Sale (available on request). Products and prices may be different in our Dublin store. Goods normally delivered within 5-7 days. All orders fulfilled within 28 days unless otherwise specified. Industry standard practice is to guarantee transfers using the GDT size. Actual wiring cost can be approx. 1" less. Depending on purchase, software applications, are pre-installed and supplied on CD with on-line help. Time is a registered trademark. Time we're on your side. Time Hourglass Logo and PowerPC are trademarks of Time Computer Systems Ltd. EAOE.

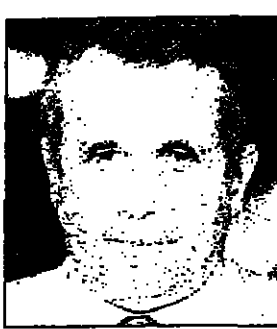
Deputy Business & City Editor, Michael Harrison
News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098
E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BRIEFING

UBS urged to buy back shares

TOP EXECUTIVES from UBS, the world's biggest bank, will meet investors in Zurich today amid growing pressure from shareholders for the bank to use some of its \$4bn in excess capital to fund a share buyback. Analysts say that the bank could afford to buy back as much as 8 per cent of its share capital. The meeting is the first since October, when UBS lost its chairman Marcel Caballavetta and a clutch of senior executives after booking hefty losses on an investment in Long-Term Capital Management, the hedge fund.

Bell attacks building society 'bribes'

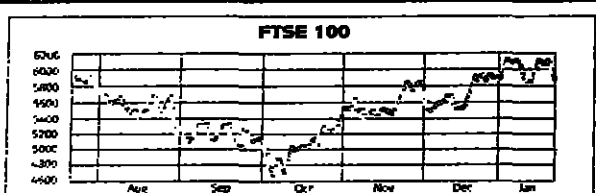


MARTIN BELL MP, the former war correspondent who was elected to Parliament on an anti-corruption ticket, has thrown his weight behind the campaign to protect the building society movement. He says carpetbaggers should not be allowed to force votes on conversion backed by "what can only be described as bribes". Mr Bell also said since the late of the movement may lie in Parliament's hands then it may be time for MPs to declare their building society accounts in the Register of Members' Interests because of potential conflicts of interest created by the prospect of windfall payouts.

Sluggish growth in card spending

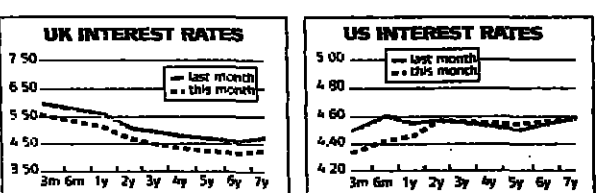
CREDIT CARD spending reached £12bn in December – the highest monthly total on record – but the year-on-year rate of growth was sluggish. According to figures from the Credit Card Research Group, spending grew by only 13 per cent in December, compared with the 23 per cent increase seen in January last year. The two sectors which bucked the trend were travel and services, recording increases of 19 per cent and 32 per cent respectively.

STOCK MARKETS



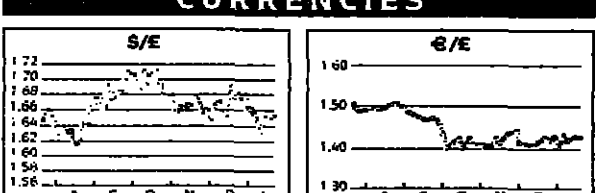
Index	Close	High	Low	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield (%)
FTSE 100	5861.20	-79.80	-1.34	6195.6	4599.2	2.756
FTSE 250	4829.10	-28.00	-0.58	5970.9	4247.8	3.412
FTSE 350	2761.60	-34.30	-1.23	2969.1	2210.4	2.855
FTSE All Share	2665.36	-31.99	-1.19	2886.52	2143.53	2.502
FTSE Smallcap	2093.10	-1.00	-0.33	2739.8	1834.4	3.847
FTSE Fledgling	1172.30	-11.50	-0.99	1517.1	1046.2	4.609
FTSE AIM	818.30	-7.70	-0.95	1146.9	761.3	1.216
FTSE Europe 100	2711.17	-37.02	-1.35	3079.27	2018.15	1.348
FTSE Europe 300	1180.35	-12.99	-1.09	1332.07	880.63	...
Dow Jones	9120.67	-209.58	-2.24	9647.96	7460.3	1.677
Nikkei	14154.40	-415.54	-3.03	17352.95	12787.9	1.025
Hong Kong	9738.52	-408.88	-4.03	11826.16	6544.79	3.612
Dax	5019.28	-59.06	-1.19	6217.83	3833.71	1.712
S&P 500	1235.19	-17.70	-1.42	1278.05	923.32	1.393
Nasdaq	2338.62	-29.38	-1.25	2474.38	1597.09	0.977
Toronto 300	6593.90	-165.52	-2.45	7837.7	5320.9	1.643
Brazil Bovespa	7190.21	-443.47	-6.57	12339.14	4575.69	9.58
Belgium Bel20	3383.77	-2.52	-0.07	3713.21	2490.76	2.102
Amsterdam AEX	518.73	-9.84	-1.86	600.65	366.58	1.895
France CAC 40	4019.33	-35.48	-0.88	4404.94	2861.21	2.008
Spain IBEX35	33745.00	-1297.00	-3.70	39170	24175	1.21
Madrid IEX 35	9612.00	-15.70	-0.16	10989.8	6869.9	1.835
Irish Overall	5233.59	-193.47	-3.02	5817.7	3732.57	1.436
S. Korea Comp	550.58	-63.99	-10.41	651.95	277.37	1.08
Australia ASX	2848.40	-39.10	-1.39	2902.9	2386.7	3.228

INTEREST RATES



Index	3 month	6 month	1 year	10 year	30 year	Long bond	Yr. chg.
UK	5.79	-1.81	5.44	-2.19	4.14	-1.89	4.19
US	4.97	-0.65	5.04	-0.62	4.63	...	5.09
Japan	0.45	-0.28	0.46	-0.23	1.83	-0.16	2.85
Germany	3.06	-0.49	2.99	-0.62	3.64	-1.46	4.57

CURRENCIES



Index	Close	High	Low	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yr. chg.
Pound	1.6555	+0.036	+2.23	1.6691	1.5409	...
Dollar	1.4294	+0.156	+10.79	1.4079	1.1665	...
Yen	189.58	+11.23	+209.56	189.58	140.29	...
€ index	99.80	0.00	104.80	104.80	108.90	...

OTHER INDICATORS

Index	Close	High	Low	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yr. chg.
Brent Oil (\$)	11.35	0.51	14.38	14.38	11.24	...
Gold (\$)	286.45	-0.60	290.73	290.73	281.00	...
Silver (\$)	5.14	0.03	5.58	5.58	4.80	...

TOURIST RATES

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia (\$)	2.5047	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.30
Austria (schillings)	18.95	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0364
Belgium (francs)	55.70	New Zealand (\$)	2.9473
Canada (\$)	2.4318	Norway (kroner)	11.95
Cyprus (pounds)	0.7982	Portugal (escudos)	275.09
Denmark (kroner)	10.30	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0229
Finland (markka)	8.2644	Singapore (\$)	2.6511
France (francs)	9.0522	South Africa (rand)	9.6400
Germany (marks)	2.7086	Spain (pesetas)	229.25
Greece (drachma)	445.68	Sweden (kronor)	12.48
Hong Kong (\$)	12.35	Switzerland (francs)	2.1235
Ireland (pounds)	1.0839	Thailand (bahts)	55.97
India (rupees)	63.07	Turkey (liras)	518761
Israel (shekels)	6.2310	USA (\$)	1.6063
Italy (lira)	2682		
Japan (yen)	183.98		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.0070		
Malta (lira)	0.6029		

BUSINESS

Brown urged to give £1bn boost to entrepreneurs

BUSINESS LEADERS will next week call on the Government to match its words with action by agreeing to a £1bn package of measures designed to foster more high-growth entrepreneurial companies.

In a submission to Gordon Brown, the British Chambers of Commerce will urge the Chancellor to use his March Budget to introduce a range of fiscal incentives targeted at small firms, particularly those in the hi-tech sector.

The centre-piece of the programme would be an "entrepreneurs' investment incentive" entitling all start-up businesses to claim tax credits on their investments for the first three years.

The BCC will also call for more favourable tax treatment of share options, savings and capital allowances and the resumption of tax allowances for profit-related pay, but on a more tightly-defined basis.

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

Its Budget submission is expected to recommend that small firms be allowed to offset 100 per cent of capital investment against tax each year up to a limit of £250,000 – a move that would cost the Treasury some £600m.

The BCC, which represents 110,000 companies across manufacturing, services and retail, is also expected to float the idea of launching a business equivalent of the Individual Savings Account.

Called the Business Investment Savings Account or BISA, it would allow small businesses to put up to £250,000 of profits into a tax-exempt fund each year to finance future expansion.

There would be no time limit on how long the money was left there but the tax relief would only be available if the funds were reinvested. The scheme would cost the Exchequer around £250m a year.

Other measures which are likely to feature in the submission are a reduction in capital gains tax to 20 per cent for all taxpayers and an increase in the threshold at which small companies start paying corporation tax from £300,000 to £500,000.

Another recommendation is that small high-growth firms be allowed to grant employees share options up to a value of £250,000 without any income tax liability. At present the limit is £30,000 but the BCC believes this is too low to enable such businesses to attract the kind of managerial talent they need.

Since then, the Department of Trade and Industry has published a competitiveness White Paper outlining a range of initiatives aimed at entrepreneurs, such as a £150m Enterprise Fund. But this only contains £20m of new money and many of the other schemes are either uncosted or will be financed by switching resources from other parts of the DTI budget.

Other measures supported by the BCC include tax breaks to encourage large companies to train suppliers and road pricing at local level provided all the money raised is reinvested in transport schemes.

In his pre-Budget report last November, the Chancellor pledged to introduce measures to support enterprise and innovation.

He also offered to consult with small businesses on the possibility of new tax credits set against research and development spending.

Since then, the Department of Trade and Industry has published a competitiveness White Paper outlining a range of initiatives aimed at entrepreneurs, such as a £150m Enterprise Fund. But this only contains £20m of new money and many of the other schemes are either uncosted or will be financed by switching resources from other parts of the DTI budget.

Industry to get grants to use biotechnology

THE GOVERNMENT will this week boost the troubled biotechnology sector by unveiling a scheme to encourage manufacturers to use biotechnology more in the production of their goods, writes Francesco Guerrera.

The Science Minister, John Birt, is believed to have secured £14m from Stephen Byers, the new Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to fund the initiative.

The money will be spent over the next three or four years to help British industry reduce costs and become more environmentally friendly through the use of biotechnological techniques.

The bulk of the funds will go into grants to persuade firms to use biotechnology in their production processes, while the rest will be used on a publicity campaign.

Ministers are keen to widen the appeal of biotechnology from drug development, its traditional realm, to other areas of manufacturing.

The programme, set to be launched by Mr Birt at the end of the week, will initially target firms in the chemical, engineering and textile sectors, three industries which have been hit hard by the recent slump in UK manufacturing.

If it is successful, the programme will be widened to other sectors.

Biggest Mirror investor tells Monty to quit

PHILIPS & DREW, Mirror Group's largest shareholder, is expected to tell David Montgomery today that it will back calls for an extraordinary shareholders' meeting to force him out if he refuses to resign at tomorrow's meeting of the board of the newspaper group.

Attempts over the weekend by the embattled Mirror Group chief executive's camp to turn the tables on Sir Victor Blank – by pinning the blame for the boardroom rift on backdoor manoeuvrings by the chairman – appeared yesterday to have merely reinforced the view that the board is bitterly divided and will remain so as long as Mr Montgomery stays at the helm.

Another key investor, Hermes, which met Mr Montgomery on Friday, has told other shareholders that it has already signed a motion requesting an emergency meeting to press for his removal. The Prudential is also said to be deeply unhappy at Mr Montgomery and backing calls from him to go.

"He would have to pull himself out of the hat to save himself," said one adviser yesterday. "The problem is that this is what this business is about – him rather than what is best for the company."

Investors are angry that Mr Montgomery has opposed a merger with the regional newspaper group Trinity, which they believe offers a serious possibility of improving returns, because he would be sidelined by the deal.

Mr Montgomery has belatedly sought to heal the rift with the Mirror's main shareholders by suggesting that he would be ready to back the merger provided Trinity upped the price – even though he alleges Sir Victor negotiated the deal behind his back primarily because the Mirror chairman wanted the job for himself.

However, the reaction ahead of today's meeting pointed, if anything, to a widening of the divisions within the group.

References in the Sunday newspapers to a dossier to be presented at tomorrow's board meeting by Mr Montgomery, detailing alleged "secret" meetings between Sir Victor and potential bidders, came despite strict orders from Sir Victor on a blanket ban on talking to the Press.

The fact that several of the key executives are prepared to back Mr Montgomery against the chairman has only strengthened shareholders' belief that the boardroom is irretrievably split and cannot be reunited while Mr Montgomery remains in his post.



Sir Victor Blank (left), chairman, and David Montgomery, chief executive, are locked in a boardroom battle



Johnston approach draws out bidders

PORTSMOUTH & Sunderland Newspapers said last night it had received approaches from other newspaper groups as well as venture capitalists following Friday's "smash and grab" bid by rival Johnston Press for 25 per cent of the group, writes Andrew Garfield.

The chairman, Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen, last night warned shareholders that Johnston was primarily interested in blocking any third party from bidding and that accepting its offer would play into its hands.

"Johnston is using smash and grab tactics to get the group on the cheap," he said. Johnston struck after talks aimed at achieving an agreed deal broke down last month over price. It is seeking to buy 10 per cent of the group through a £16 a share tender offer to add to the 1.99 per cent it has already acquired. It is now seeking monopolies clearance for an all-out bid for the entire group.

The group wants to avoid being caught out as it was last year when its bid for Home Counties Newspapers failed because the rival Eastern Counties was able to move in while Johnston's bid was stalled by the Monopolies Commission.

Federal Mogul lines up £3.6bn LucasVarity bid

FEDERAL MOGUL, the acquisitive US engineering company, is eyeing up a £3.6bn bid for LucasVarity, the motor components and aerospace group led by Victor Rice.

The board of LucasVarity, chaired by Ed Wallis, is understood to have been sounded out by advisers to Federal Mogul but no offer has yet been made. Federal Mogul is led by Dick Snell, rated one of America's hottest corporate properties. He has already swooped on the UK motor industry once, acquiring the brake pads business T&N last year in an agreed £1.5bn deal. Hostile bids are not

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

Mr Snell's usual style, suggesting that he would prefer an agreed deal. But one industry source said: "If it comes to a full-scale punch-up, I think Dick will go for it."

Federal Mogul is the smaller of the two companies, with a market capitalisation of £2.6bn, but it has been expanding rapidly, buying Cooper Industries as well as T&N. A successful bid for LucasVarity would create a business with £7bn in sales.

The approach is thought to have been made through Merrill Lynch, which handled a recent bond issue for Federal Mogul. An offer pitched at around 260p a share, compared with LucasVarity's closing price on Friday of 215p, has been spoken of.

A bid battle would pitch two of the motor industry's most colourful characters against one another. Under Mr Snell's leadership, Federal Mogul has gained a sky-high rating on Wall Street, helping it to finance its expansion drive.

Mr Rice, meanwhile, is best known for the failure of his controversial attempt to shift LucasVarity's headquarters and primary listing to the US.

cent bond issue for Federal Mogul. An offer pitched at around 260p a share, compared with LucasVarity's closing price on Friday of 215p, has been spoken of.

A bid battle would pitch two of the motor industry's most colourful characters against one another. Under Mr Snell's leadership, Federal Mogul has gained a sky-high rating on Wall Street, helping it to finance its expansion drive.

Mr Rice, meanwhile, is best known for the failure of his controversial attempt to shift LucasVarity's headquarters and primary listing to the US.

3i stalks rival Electra with £1.25bn offer

THE VENTURE capital group 3i has approached its rival, Electra Investment Trust, about a £1.25bn takeover deal to create a new £5bn force in private equity finance.

The approach came 10 days ago and was met with a sympathetic hearing from Electra's chairman, Michael Stoddart, who has been looking for ways to boost Electra's flagging share price for some time.

Brian Larcombe, 3i's chief executive, had been hoping to tie up an agreed deal by today. He sees the combination as the best way of countering American venture capitalists like Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Hicks Muse, which are now aggressively targeting European deals.

Electra is believed to be unhappy with the 700p a share 3i has said it would be prepared to offer – even though that would represent a premium both to net asset value and to Electra's closing price on Friday of 562p.

The 3i chief executive has indicated that he would be prepared to go hostile if he cannot persuade Electra to back down over price.

Mr Stoddart believes that Electra's conservative accounting policy understates

BY ANDREW GARFIELD

the value that could be unlocked from its large portfolio of unquoted industrial holdings when they come to be floated or sold.

He also believes that the price does not fully reflect the value of 3i of Electra Fleming, the team that manages the trust's investments which is half owned by the trust and half by Robert Fleming, the merchant bank.

He believes that while 3i have a considerable track record in small and medium-sized deals, the group needs Electra Fleming's expertise if it is to achieve its ambition of breaking through into the really big corporate buyouts that have so far eluded it.

3i rejects claims that it has yet to pull off anything comparable with deals like the privatisation of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, or the buyout of Germany's Woolworth stores, both of which are recent Electra scalps.

Electra's bargaining position is limited. The trust is currently trading at a 17 per cent discount to net asset value. However, 3i, a FTSE 100 company, has traded at or above net asset value since it floated in 1994.

Hanley

UNTIL search for coal has been the main reason for the town's decline, both sides and the town itself will be until the end of the season. Newcastle have found it difficult to reproduce the away form which earned them the title last May. Unlucky in the league, they may be, but on their travels they have beaten only the three bottom sides in the Premier League.

True, defeats at London, Bath and Harlequin were only by a single score. However, as Rob Andrew like Newcastle, in two of those games, Newcastle would be starting top billing with Leices and Northampton, with the reputation of the title as much as a dream.

It is much nearer the truth to say that Newcastle are nowhere near the force of last

How we will learn to love the euro

THIS COLUMN usually concentrates on the outlook for inflation, growth and fiscal policy. I focus instead on politics and opinion polls, because a new factor is entering the economy's medium-term outlook.

The launch of the euro seems to have sparked a marked pro-EMU shift in UK public opinion. If, as seems likely, hostility to EMU fades further over the coming year, then markets will attach a higher likelihood to the UK joining EMU in 2001-03. This will tend to reduce short and intermediate interest rates and weaken sterling modestly - reinforcing the effect of the weak economy - while also lifting equities and preventing the pound from falling a long way.



MICHAEL SAUNDERS

Opinion polls suggest that a majority of the UK public view EMU entry as inevitable eventually

The Government's plan seems to be to have a general election in early 2001, a referendum in late 2001 and EMU entry in early 2002. Sterling notes and coin would circulate for a further two or three years, but UK base rates would be set by the European Central Bank and the pound's exchange rate against the euro area would be legally locked as of early 2002. At present, markets do not believe that this timetable will hold. Markets imply that UK short rates in March 2002 will stand about 1.4 percentage points above

euro area rates. This gap will be zero if the UK is in EMU.

The main obstacle to the UK joining EMU is the need to win over public opinion for a referendum. In December, polling by Mori for Salomon Smith Barney/Citibank showed a sharp rise in hostility to EMU, probably reflecting the tax harmonisation row. That issue has now quietened, and in January public hostility to EMU fell close to the mid-1998 level, which was the

lowest since Mori started polling on this issue in 1991. EMU's smooth launch has been a further blow to those who predicted it would never happen. Recent months also have seen marked pro-EMU shifts in public opinion in Sweden and Denmark.

The split shows a close link between attitudes to EMU, incomes and political affiliation. The upper-income AB social group is slightly pro-EMU, with 45 per cent in favour of entry and 43 per cent against (balance of plus 2 per cent). The skilled working class C2s and lower-income DEs are strongly against, with balances of minus 22 per cent and minus 29 per cent. Among tabloid readers the balance of opinion against EMU is 28 per cent, while among readers of the broadsheet dailies there is a balance of 7 per cent in favour. Labour voters show a balance of 9 per cent against EMU entry, with a balance of 44 per cent against among Conservatives.

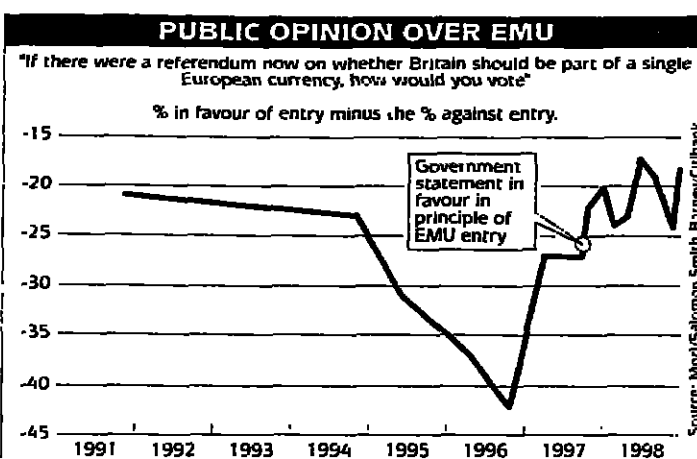
Looked at over a longer period, Mori's polls show a gradual but erratic drop in hostility to EMU since the Government's October 1997 statement in favour of the principle of entry. All polls since then - including that in December 1998 during the tax harmonisation row

- have shown less public hostility to EMU than any polls in the previous three years.

The Treasury has highlighted the need to achieve sustained economic convergence before joining EMU, with the famous five tests. In practice, these tests really are a figleaf to disguise the near-term difficulty of winning a referendum. Of course, it would be better to achieve economic convergence before joining EMU than to be diverging. But the achievement of similar inflation and interest rates to other euro area countries for a year or two is very unlikely to ensure lasting convergence.

Inevitably, inside EMU, there will be times when the common interest rate is too high for the UK and times when it is too low. Regional divergences are common in large monetary unions. For example, individual states in the US show wide divergences in their growth and inflation rates, despite having more flexible labour markets plus greater integration of capital and product markets than the EU.

The key requirement is that public opinion needs to be persuaded that EMU entry and closer European political integration are desirable aims in themselves. Otherwise, the inevitable periods of



economic divergence will cause huge political strains. If public opinion shifts in favour of EMU entry, then the Government can declare these tests met any time it likes.

The chances are that public hostility to EMU will fall further in the coming year. The euro area's mix of relatively low short rates and relatively high growth (compared to the UK in 1998) will probably seep into public awareness. The Government and many businesses will continue gently to nudge public

opinion in a pro-EMU direction. The UK Government will feel more isolated outside EMU, and its aims of leading in Europe will look less plausible if, as seems likely, the Swedish and Danish governments hold referendums next year or in 2001, and falling inflation puts Greece on track to join in 2001 or 2002.

Moreover, opinion polls suggest that while UK opinion remains against EMU entry, a majority of the UK public view entry as inevitable eventually. Unless the anti-EMU camp can dent this view of in-

evitability, then the pro-EMU camp will aim to persuade the public that the UK might as well join in the next few years as later on.

A pro-EMU shift would help short and intermediate interest rates (out to about eight years) to fall towards euro area levels. Sterling probably also would fall as markets shorter the timescale for the pound to fall to a more sustainable level of DM2.50-2.60 (1 euro = 75-78p).

However, with the pound's forward rate for 2002 likely to become anchored around 75-78p to the euro, there will be less risk that rapid near-term rate cuts would cause the pound to collapse. This would make it easier for the Bank of England to cut rates a good deal further in the next year. Lower interest rates and a lower pound probably would lift UK equities, supporting the effects of high institutional cash levels. Financial companies and domestic-oriented sectors probably would gain most as interest rate expectations fall, leading to hopes of gains in consumer spending and construction.

Michael Saunders is UK Economist at Salomon Smith Barney/Citibank

The economic forecasters who got it right for 1998

By DIANE COYLE
Economics Editor

Golden Guru: The Independent's annual award for the most accurate prediction goes to James Walsh of Hermes

JUST OVER a year ago the economy was steaming ahead, thanks to a heady mix of pre-election interest rate cuts, post-election euphoria and the windfall of free building society shares. As forecasters pondered their predictions for the next 12 months at the end of 1997, few could have guessed how much closer to recession the economy would be by the end of 1998.

The winner of *The Independent's* Golden Guru award for the most accurate economic forecast for 1998, James Walsh of Hermes Pension Management, is relatively optimistic about the next year, however. He said: "The fact that the Monetary Policy Committee has cut interest rates so quickly has boosted confidence. It means companies will not cut back quite as dramatically."

His prediction of 1 per cent growth is in the middle of the range contained in the Treasury's latest monthly summary of forecasts, on which next year's Golden Guru contest will be based. With fourth-quarter gross domestic product figures on Friday showing a small in-



James Walsh of Hermes wins the Golden Guru statue

crease, the odds on a soft landing have improved slightly since most of the forecasts were prepared. But they range from minus 0.5 per cent to 2.1 per cent.

This is wider than the range 12 months ago, reflecting the disagreement within the profession about a number of risks. One is the effect of external crises on the UK. Another is whether the Bank of England has indeed acted quickly enough to head off full-blown recession, as Mr Walsh believes.

His success, he reckons, was down to believing in the possibility of the economy combining both healthy growth and low inflation. Certainly, some of the laggards in the table made the mistake of assuming that strong growth would be combined with above-target inflation.

Adam Cole of James Capel, at the bottom of the list, admitted: "My mistake was to be too optimistic about consumer spending. I had expected a

residual effect from the share windfall and the slowdown in consumer spending caught us out." He added: "I'm very middle-of-the-road this year."

The Guru league table is compiled by calculating the sum of the absolute error in predictions for the year-on-year increase in GDP, the fourth-quarter inflation rate in the target measure (retail prices less mortgage interest payments) and the claimant unemployment rate.

Some forecasters - among them the Treasury - are excluded for failing to present the exact predictions needed to qualify for entry.

It is a crude measure but gives a good idea of how accurate the forecasters were on the big picture for the economy. Its biggest drawback - especially in a year like 1998 when the results at the top are clustered very closely together - is that small revisions to GDP can alter the exact rankings. However, the award of the title and Golden Guru statue is final.

So close were most forecasts for 1998 that there is really no shame in being anywhere in the top half of the table. But Mr Cole said: "I had better take Monday off work."

IN BRIEF

Profit warnings rise 46 per cent

PROFIT WARNINGS rose by almost a half in the last quarter of 1998 according to a report today from Ernst & Young. There were a total of 126 warnings - 46 per cent increase on the third quarter - with companies blaming declining domestic sales and export difficulties as the two most common factors.

Record year for Scottish Equitable

THE PENSIONS provider Scottish Equitable, part of the Aegon group, said 1998 had been a record year, with total new premium business rising by 27 per cent to £21.6bn. Annualised premium income rose 19 per cent to £373m. New single premium business rose 28 per cent to £1.9bn.

£150m business park planned

THE PROPERTY group Development Securities has completed the purchase of 750,000 sq ft site in Cambourne, near Cambridge, which will be home to a £150m business park development. Construction of the 50-acre development, which is within 10 minutes of the planned site of Microsoft's new European research facility, begins in June.

Tax competition 'self-defeating'

TWO LEADING ACADEMICS have argued that pan-European tax harmonisation would help reduce tax evasion. Writing in the latest issue of the *Economic Journal*, Professor Eckhard Janeba of Indiana University in Bloomington, and Professor Wolfgang Peters of European University Viadrina in Frankfurt, argue that tax competition between European countries is ultimately self-defeating. They say that competition for non-residents' income drives non-resident tax rates in the competing European countries down to zero. This "beggar thy neighbour" tax policy leaves everyone with lower levels of tax revenue.

Tough six months for retailers

RETAILERS FACE a tough six months trading, with pressure on prices continuing and consumer confidence remaining weak, according to a new report published today by Verdict, the retail consultants. However, the report forecasts that the economic climate will improve in the second half of the year helped by lower interest rates and the "millennium effect" on the consumer economy.

TEL: 0171 293 2222

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

FAX: 0171 293 2505

LIFESTYLE MORTGAGES

MORTGAGE BROKER FRANCHISE
EXCLUSIVE AREAS NATIONALLY
All computer software provided plus in-house training
Leads provided (if required) from our own Telemarketing Department
NO INITIAL OUTLAY NECESSARY
Investment required from £2,448 to £7,200 (dependent on area with interest free terms available)
Royalties only £210 per month - absolutely no other deductions
Excellent Earnings Potential
This is YOUR business under a common title - (Not just an Agency)
Telephone now for a Prospectus
01677 423973 (North) 01920 444211 (South)

Services

No catches, No gimmicks, No commitments
Start with just £25

Communications
All Rates are 2000
All day, Every day
£5 FREE CALLS
UK LOCAL / NATIONAL 3.5 p
AUSTRALIA 9 p
FRANCE 36 p
INDIA 9 p
IRELAND 15 p
ISRAEL 15 p
MALAYSIA 15 p
NIGERIA 35 p
NETHERLANDS 9 p
NEW ZEALAND 9 p
PAKISTAN 46 p
TURKEY 25 p
USA 5 p
CALL FREE 0800 634 2000
All the above prices are in pence per minute and include VAT, SDLC
To advertise in this section please call Lee Conde now on 0171 293 2233.

Good times or Bad
Our business gets better

With organisations, large and small, making them substantial savings using ERA's proven system. You will receive 50% of savings for your fee, for a job well done. With ERA, an initial investment of £18,900 includes:

- Full training and support
- ERA's proven system
- Large cost savings
- Long term future
- And the satisfaction of putting your own business!

To find out more call: **01962 849444**

Global Travel Group
The Global Travel Group Plc is one of the fastest growing groups of independent travel agents within the industry. Global Travel Agents have access to superior technology which gives members a unique advantage over their competitors. Become a Global Travel Agent and reap the benefits of an independent with the buying power of a multiple. Full training and support is given and previous travel experience is not necessary.
Franchise Fee £9,995 Plus Vat
For more information call 01244 892205

Manchester's Biggest Ever Franchise Exhibition!
5th & 6th February, G-Mex
10am - 5pm Fri • 10am - 4pm Sat

Other Dates:
LONDON 18th & 17th April, Wembley
GLASGOW 25th & 26th June, SECC

Supported by
Franchise World **Franchise 100**

24 Hr Information and Ticket Hotline:
01280 707433
Website: www.franinfo.co.uk

Opportunities

PERFECT TIMING... THE PERFECT BUSINESS!
City 2000 Plc is rapidly establishing itself as the lead player in the fastest growing business of all time - internet marketing. Now moving into hypergrowth with our new International Business Club, we seek to appoint a number of key individuals (full and part-time) to take City 2000 and themselves to unprecedented heights, making their fortunes as Independent Member Consultants. Low start-up costs, with full training and support provided by top professionals. For more information on the business during opportunity of a lifetime, contact:
Robert Pearson, Franchise Development, Independent Sales & Member Consultant
Call and visit Tel: 0161 367 9077 www.city2000.co.uk

UNHAPPY NETWORKERS?
Check this out!
1st Level 15%
2nd Level 45%
3rd Level up to 15%
No Initial Fee book and Tape
"Franchise Network Go's don't want you to know!"
Phone Chris on
01223 721244

FREEDOM & FINANCIAL
Independence with technology. Less than 24hrs 0800 325 6607
ACT NOW TO SECURE Your Future. £1-8kpm. P/T/F. Proven System. Call 0161 5001918 5dlines.
AMAZING PROVEN BUSINESS
£1-10k p.m. P/T/F. From Home. Call 0118 628 7675

NOTICE TO READERS
Whilst we take reasonable precautions to ensure that all advertisements, readers are strongly advised to take professional advice before paying a deposit or entering into any financial commitment.

THIS NEWSPAPER AND YOU
If you have a complaint about an item in this newspaper which concerns accuracy, intrusion, harassment or discrimination, write to the editor about it.
If you're still dissatisfied you can write to the Press Complaints Commission, an independent organisation established to uphold an editorial Code of Practice for the Press.
THIS NEWSPAPER ABIDES BY THE PCC'S DECISIONS

PC
1 SALISBURY SQUARE
LONDON EC4A 3AF
Telephone 071 353 1248
Facsimile 071 353 8355
This space has been donated by the publisher

A NEW CAREER ABROAD

Travel may broaden the mind - but working abroad broadens the bank balance and the experience too.
Every two weeks, **Overseas Jobs Express** carries over 1,500 opportunities in all corners of the world. And for every type of career, from IT and Executive to Sales and Seasonal.
It also keeps you up-to-date with all the latest news about working abroad.
For just £19.95, **Overseas Jobs Express** will be delivered to your door every 2 weeks for 3 months. Order now - and get moving soon.

OVERSEAS JOBS EXPRESS

Please send me Overseas Jobs Express for 3 months.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
enclose cheque/PO for £... or charge my credit card
No. _____ expiry date _____
or call us on 01273 440220, fax 01273 440229 to find out more.
24 hour Credit Card Hotline 01273 454 522.
Complete and post this coupon with your payment to Dept. 1N, Overseas Jobs Express, Premier House, Shoreham Airport BN43 5FF.

FREE
JUST CALL 01273 440220

FRANCHISORS... DID YOU KNOW...
111,000 Independent and Independent On Sunday readers are self-employed and under 50. 25% of Independent and 20% of Independent On Sunday readers have a personal income of £25,000 or more.
THE FRANCHISE FEATURE. SUNDAY 31st JAN/MONDAY 1st FEB.
(Source: NRS Oct 97 - Sept 1998/TCI April 1997 - March 1998/Pressnet 1997)

INDEPENDENT
London 25 January 1999

Ofex shrugs off the setbacks and scandals

OFEX, the City's fringe, lightly regulated share market seems to be picking up after experiencing a quiet, perhaps even depressing, run.

Trading fell away in the second half of last year, with those involved in the market wondering if the slowdown was a backlash from the turmoil, even hysteria, which hit world markets or, perhaps, the first sign that Ofex was losing its appeal.

Nowadays investors are struggling with the problems of Latin America in general, and Brazil in particular, as well as harbouring some nasty suspicions about China.

In the autumn it was the Russian and Far Eastern crashes and the near oblivion of the allegedly sophisticated hedge fund, Long-Term Capital Management, which created dismay; Footsie, with the gloom and doom merchants in full cry, tumbled to below 4,700 points. Despite retreats on Thursday and Friday it closed last week at 5,861.2.

But Ofex, created by an old-fashioned share jobber, John Jenkins, now views the setback as a mere hiccup.

Even so, the sudden deterioration in trading interest meant that last year Ofex experienced a sharp decline in share turnover to 228.3 million. In the previous year volume was \$17.1 million. The number of trades also dropped from 22,265 to 18,116. But the value of deals was slightly higher, at £159.4m.

Since the new year there has been "reasonable activity," with trading described as "more substantial if still selective".

The flow of newcomers - a clear indication of the market's appeal - is strengthening. Seven companies have lodged applications to join and another nine are close to applying. Sports seems to be one growth area, with a couple of

STOCK MARKET WEEK



DEREK PAIN

football clubs as well as rugby and ice hockey clubs hopeful of tapping Ofex investors.

A handful of football clubs, including Arsenal and Glasgow Rangers, are already traded; the market also sports an ice hockey club, Telford Tigers. Among the potential sporting newcomers, Paisley Pirates, an ice hockey club, seems to be setting the pace. Its bid to raise £250,000 by selling shares at 30p closes tomorrow.

Last year companies raised £60.4m on Ofex, which attracted 49 recruits although it lost almost as many through takeovers, elevation to other markets and expulsions.

Mr Jenkins' firm, JP Jenkins, a Stock Exchange member company which runs the market, has become increasingly severe on constituents which do not comply with its code of conduct. Last year it removed 27 companies.

Ofex now has approaching 200 members worth around £2bn. Weetabix, the family-controlled breakfast cereal group, is the biggest constituent with a £442.8m capitalisation following last year's take over of National Car Parking.

A number of companies are currently suspended. Share dealings are frozen for six

months and, in the case of casualties, movement has to be made towards restructuring or membership is withdrawn.

Ofex emerged in 1995 from the Stock Exchange's old matched-bargains market, which was unceremoniously killed off when AIM was launched.

Matched bargains evolved as a facility for deals in unquoted companies, often old-established groups where some shares had strayed outside the ruling families.

The decision to remove such a valuable trading pitch caused widespread dismay. However it provided Mr Jenkins, whose family firm had traded in matched bargains, with an opportunity to establish a share market for companies requiring the occasional share dealing facility as well as young, even start-up operations which wanted to raise cash.

When the matched-bargain market disappeared companies such as the brewer Jennings Brothers took AIM; others - the Shepherd Neame brewery was one - went in the other direction to Ofex. Some, unfortunately, took the opportunity to disappear into an investment wilderness.

Nowadays Ofex is an un-

even mixture of old-established groups and thrusting start-ups or fledgling operations. It has, of course, experienced its share of scandals and disasters but they must be expected in a young share market with a sprawling array of young entrepreneurial companies.

Display IT and SkyNet Corporation were two to fall heavily from grace. And there has been the inevitable crop of casualties like Woodstock, a pub group which went bottoms up only months after its arrival.

But it would be silly to ignore its successes, such as Robotic Technology, a highly sophisticated engineering developing production systems; Po Na Na, running late-night, North African themed bars; and Electronic Fundraising, which provides Internet lotteries.

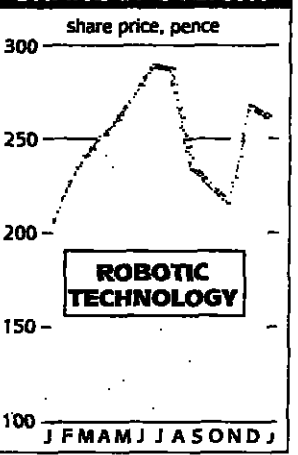
EF, currently raising £2.5m through an offer of shares at 250p, is one constituent with a presence at the first Ofex Conference and Exhibition. Around 30 companies are expected to take part. The show, at London's Barbican Centre on February 18, is being run by Imperator, well known for organising company exhibitions.

No Ofex companies are due to produce results this week and even the main stock market list looks decidedly thin. Northern Rock and Lonhro offer year's figures.

The building society turned bank should produce a robust performance with pre-tax profits up 46 per cent to around £200m. The previous year's display, however, was depressed by the costs of becoming a bank and further charges involving a branch reorganisation.

The restructured Lonhro, a pale shadow of itself since the end of the Tiny Rowland era, is expected to produce around £100m, down from £198m.

SHARE SPOTLIGHT



Porsche, the sports car maker, is taking action in the US against companies using its name on the Internet

Ice cream cost RBS millions

ROYAL BANK of Scotland is trying to recoup some of the millions it lost lending to a luxury ice cream maker which went bust last year by suing the accountants who recommended that the bank should lend to the company.

RBS has issued a writ against Grant Thornton over two "due diligence" reports the accountancy firm carried out into Tudor Dairies in July and August 1997.

The bank accuses the national accountancy firm of "breach of contract and/or negligence", and is demanding damages and costs.

Tudor Dairies was a historic West Midlands firm which made the Loseley and Dayville brands of ice cream and mousses. The company needed to raise money two years ago to move from its traditional base in Henley-in-Arden to a new factory in Stourbridge.

This followed a "nimbly" campaign by neighbours and the local council in Henley-in-Arden against the noise made by the old factory. Grant Thornton gave the go-ahead for RBS to lend Tudor Dairies the funds, and Tudor duly moved to the new factory, which it bought from Nestlé.

WHO'S SUING WHOM

JOHN WILLCOCK

Accountants from Grant Thornton revisited the company in December 1997 and reported that its finances had dramatically worsened. Four months later RBS was forced to appoint receivers to Tudor Dairies. The bank lost "several millions" it had lent to the company. It is now attempting to recoup as much of these losses as possible from Grant Thornton.

THE FINANCIAL Services Authority (FSA) is attempting to close down an investment and foreign exchange operation being run by an individual, Rafiq Ahmed Petkar, from his own house in Acton, west London.

The FSA claims that Mr Petkar's two firms, Graceland

Investments and Magenta Forex, are unlicensed under the Financial Services Act and must therefore stop trading. The investment regulator issued a writ a fortnight ago applying for an injunction against the businesses and served the writ last week.

The FSA also claims that Mr Petkar has "made statements, promises or forecasts which he knows to be misleading, false or deceptive and dishonestly concealed material facts."

Mr Petkar operates Magenta Forex from his house at 4A Cotton Avenue, Acton, while Graceland Investments is based at York Street in London's West End.

PORSCHE and its US subsidiary Porsche Cars North America has filed a lawsuit in a US district court against companies using 130 Internet domain names that use the Porsche name or a variation of the name.

Porsche said it had filed a lawsuit in the court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

The company's lawyers said that use of the domain names ranged from "domain squatting" to using famous company

names on pornographic sites. Domain squatting is where speculators register a name (normally a famous company name) on the Internet in the hope they may be able to sell it back to the company at a profit.

Domain names are registered with Network Solutions, based in Virginia. The companies said it was proceeding with an in rem lawsuit (directed against property rather than a specific person) because many of the domain registrants used fictitious names and addresses, while others were registered by US companies or individuals using fictitious offshore corporations.

A MAN who bought a property from a receiver at auction is being sued by the receiver for alleged failure to pay the full price of the property. Moshe Hager of Upper Clapton Road, London, is being sued by the auctioneers Strettons and by John Alexander, receiver to Peter Bilyard, over a property in Stamford Hill sold at auction for £49,000 last July.

Strettons is claiming £9,800 plus costs, while Mr Alexander is demanding the deposit of £4,900 plus damages and costs.

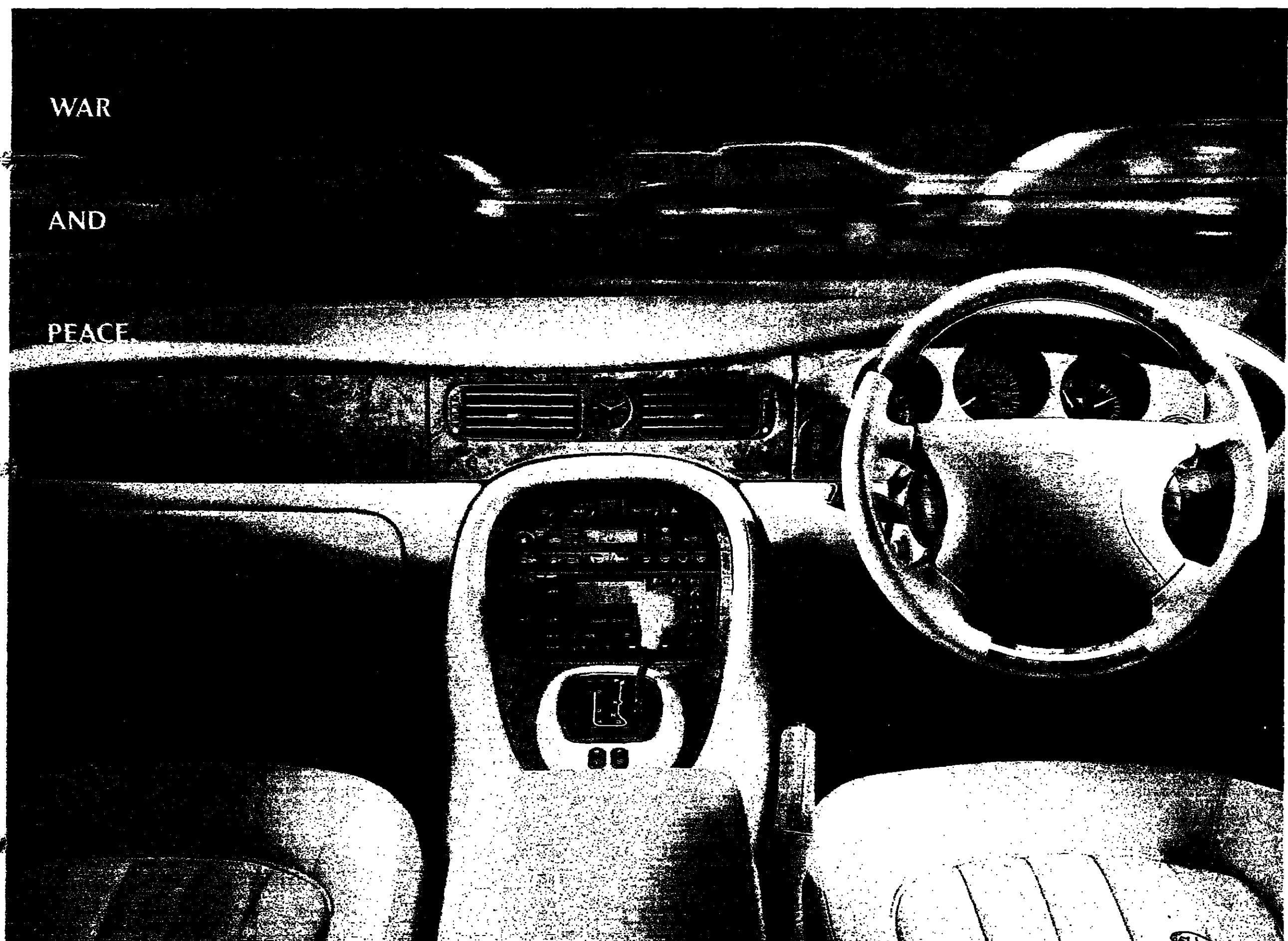
Companies reporting and economics diary for the week ahead

TODAY - Final: Lonhro, Interim: Fibronit, Haynes Publishing. TUESDAY - Final: IMS Group, London Scottish Bank. Interim: Aston Villa, Cassidy Brothers, Photo-me International. Economics: CBI quarterly and monthly trends survey (January). Events:

Governor of Bank of England Eddie George gives evidence on Monetary Policy Committee before House of Lords committee (4.00pm). WEDNESDAY - Final: Northern Rock, Interim: Aronsson, PowerScreen International. Trading statements:

WH Smith, Oasis Stores. Economics: UK trade figures: Visible trade (Nov) and visible trade excluding EU (Dec). Events: Institute for Fiscal Studies publishes Green Budget. THURSDAY - Final: Bensons Crisps. Interim: Bryant Group, International

Greetings, Medleys, Mays. FRIDAY - Final: Chemring Group, Derby Trust, Partridge Fine Art. Interim: Richards, Stewert Zigmala. Economics: US fourth quarter GDP figures, Japanese unemployment figures (Dec).



Retire to a quiet place for quiet daily contemplation. The Jaguar V8 XJ Series.

Please call 0800 70 80 60 for information on Jaguar Cars and Jaguar Financial Services. Internet: www.jaguar.com

JAGUAR

DON'T DREAM IT. DRIVE IT.

Irish benefit from the Best touch

IT MAY be possible to take the Harlequin out of a man, but it is obviously a damned sight harder to take the man - or two men, to be precise - out of Harlequins. Dick Best and Andy Keast, whose attempts to impose some sort of work ethic on a dressing room full of pastel-shirted prima donnas notoriously earned them the heave-ho from their spineless employers, happened to be pasting the sweetest of victory in their old back yard when the Twickenham bush telegraph started buzzing with rumours of a full-time return to the Stoop Memorial Ground next season. And Will Carling thought he had done for the both of them.

Not that England's shop-soiled golden boy need lie awake at night fretting over any sudden rapprochement between his former club and his former adversaries; neither



CHRIS HEWETT

Harlequins 17
London Irish 22

Best nor Keast would now touch Quins with an extendable bargepole. But there is, all the same, a tantalising possibility that the most potent coaching team in the Premiership will have their respective size 12s back under the Stoop table come September. Having outgrown their Sunbury home-

stead, happy-go-lucky London Irish are taking an increasing fancy to the idea of a groundshare with their hoity-toity neighbours.

Such a move will happen only in the decreasingly likely event of another of the capital's Exile outfits, London Scottish, selling its soul to Bristol. For, as Huw Morgan, the Quins chief executive, emphasised after the game, the landlords are getting along just fine with the current tenants. But he added: "To make our facilities work for us, we need something happening here every weekend rather than once every two or three weeks. Should Scottish disappear, for whatever reason, I'm sure we'll talk seriously to London Irish."

You have to savour the potential irony. Both Best and Keast found themselves impaled on the rough end of the player power pineapple as

Carling, and others, set about shoring up the ruins of their fading careers, and there was nothing remotely pleasant about the experience. To return to the Stoop at the helm of a London Irish side relishing the lucrative prospect of a European Cup campaign would be pure nectar in itself. If Quins were to miss the cut into the bargain - well, there really would be a God.

For the time being, a hugely significant one-off victory will do nicely, thank you for asking. While Best tried everything in his power to play down the personal dimension - "The Harlequins avenue of my life is closed and, anyway, the players didn't go out there and win that game because X, Y or Z happened to me while I was coaching here; they don't play for me at all, but for themselves and each other" - he was more moved by their urgency, their

rugged commitment to the cause, and their willingness to dig all the way down, than he would ever concede in public. He wanted this one very badly indeed.

"Yes, Dick has been driving us hard," agreed Conor O'Shea, the inspirational Irish full-back and captain, whose tries on 39 and 57 minutes ensured that his side would taste the previously forbidden fruits of a top three position among the Allied Dunbar elite. "But you don't necessarily want your coach to be your best friend and molly-coddle you all day long, do you? Rugby is all about concealing your weaknesses from the opposition, and our coaches are superb at looking at the tapes, identifying those weaknesses and making sure you know they're there."

"Dick likes to say that the shift from backslapping to backstabbing can happen very

quickly and he's right to keep us on our toes," he added.

They were certainly on their toes, particularly during an exhilarating second half in which Steve Bachop spun his web so craftily that the big tacklers in the Quins side - Peter Mensah, Rory Jenkins, Chris Sheasby and Adam Leach - repeatedly found themselves driving their shoulders into thin air. O'Shea, Brendan Venter and Nick Burrows ran enough angles off Bachop to baffle a geometrist and, slowly, but surely, the holes began to appear.

O'Shea's opening strike was a trademark effort. Three points adrift and gasping for the oxygen of continuity, the visitors finally worked their way on to the scoreboard when Bachop put Burrows into open field near halfway and then stood and applauded as his captain selected the optimum line on the centre's left shoulder to

claim the five points in Jamie Williams' tackle.

The second owed everything to another inspired Bachop pass, while a third try, completed by Justin Bishop in the right corner 13 minutes from time, underlined once again how dangerous this Irish side can be from long range.

Yet it was their performance at the coalface, and in particular that of their tight five, that suggested the Exiles might take up permanent residence in the upper echelons of the Premiership. They scrummaged quite beautifully against a Quins front row boasting both Jason Leonard and Keith Wood; indeed, Clive Woodward, a London Irish coach not so many moons ago, could do far worse than slip back to Sunbury and give Neal Hatley the once over. The former Bedford loose head is an absolute ox of a forward - a running, passing, tack-

ling ox. He made very nearly as many open-field hits as the remarkable Malcolm O'Kelly, who tackled more than anybody.

"These are the good times, but we're all perfectly aware this bubble could burst," insisted Best, who would happily apply the pin himself the moment he suspected any of his players of believing their own publicity. Those London Irish followers who sang sufficiently loudly to transform this contest into a home game, are equally aware. And does it worry them? Does it hell.

Harlequins: Tries O'Shea, Mensah; Conversions: Bachop; Penalties: Bachop. London Irish: Tries O'Shea, P. Mensah, J. Sheasby, D. Luger; Conversions: Wood; Penalties: Wood. Harlequins: Tries O'Shea, P. Mensah, J. Sheasby, D. Luger; Conversions: Wood; Penalties: Wood. Harlequins: Tries O'Shea, P. Mensah, J. Sheasby, D. Luger; Conversions: Wood; Penalties: Wood. Harlequins: Tries O'Shea, P. Mensah, J. Sheasby, D. Luger; Conversions: Wood; Penalties: Wood.

Lougheed flies high to ground Gloucester

IT WAS billed as a Premiership match, but as an advertisement for the quality of the club game in England it was poor.

At least the Leicester fans among the 11,394 who braved the wintry weather and icy rain which sluiced down for much of the second half would have gone home relieved that the leaders had splashed their way to another two vital points.

Mistakes abounded on both sides. Full-time training means fitness, strength and stamina have improved, but not the skill factor. Some of the passing on both sides was execrable.

Where there was no opponent to distract the recipient then the ball would invariably be spilled or fall into space. Ball retention was the usual lottery. With all the time they now have, it would be natural to expect some of it might be expended on drills to sharpen skills, the square bashing of the game. Perhaps players think it is accepted they can do all the basics. Well, they can't.

Joel Stranksy emerged from the muddy mess at Welford Road to say: "Most teams play badly when they lose, but good teams do win when they play badly. But even a good team cannot continue to play badly week-in, week-out, and keep on winning. We have not been playing well for weeks now."

"We have been a bit disrupted by injuries, but that happens. The fact is we haven't been playing scintillating rugby. It's worrying. We know we have to improve. We are certainly not good enough to win the Premiership playing like this."

It was not all bad, not even for Gloucester, with Richard Thomas able to steal a try late in the game. But they have still to go six without an away win. Leicester were already too far ahead thanks to the Canadian wing Dave Lougheed's two tries. The genial Toronto public school geography and PE master was one of the few

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

Leicester 23
Gloucester 16

to end an indifferent match in credit. His two tries aside, he was worth his inclusion for his support play and work in defence alone.

Yet back in the autumn the 6ft 2in, 15 stone Lougheed found himself on the transfer list after failing to win a first XV place. "I assume they have taken me off the list," he said. "In the fall my form was going up and down for whatever reason. With luck I am over that hump."

It is to be hoped the rest of the Tigers are over theirs as well. They are perfectly capable of winning the Premiership, as they demonstrated against Gloucester. They dominated in almost every phase, save the scrums, where Gloucester looked to have the better of them. But the Tigers had the edge at the line-outs and their quicker thinking backs were always more threatening, in particular Pat Howard, the Australian centre who clearly never feels pain.

The game boiled down to defensive work and Gloucester, while no slouches, just could not contain the Tigers when it mattered. Lougheed's opener came from a penalty when Martin Corry tapped and went.

The Canadian's second was down entirely to a superb effort by Stranksy, who scored the third try after the Tigers' captain Martin Johnson drove through from a line-out. Leicester: Tries Lougheed 2, Stranksy; Conversions: Simpson; Penalties: Simpson. Gloucester: Tries Howard; Conversions: Howard; Penalties: Howard. Gloucester: Tries Howard; Conversions: Howard; Penalties: Howard. Gloucester: Tries Howard; Conversions: Howard; Penalties: Howard.

Hanley style woos Woodward Sullivan faces a waiting game

A FRUITLESS search for consistency has been the lament from both sides, and probably will be until the end of the season. Newcastle have found it difficult to reproduce the away form which earned them the title last May. Unbeaten in the league at Kingston Park for three years they may be, but on their travels they have beaten only the three bottom sides in the Premiership.

True, defeats at London Irish, Bath and Harlequins were only by a single score. Moreover, as Rob Andrew likes to remind us, in two of those Newcastle outscored the opposition in tries. But for those losses, Newcastle would be sharing top billing with Leicester and Northampton, with the retention of the title as much a reality as a dream.

It is much nearer the truth to say that Newcastle are nowhere near the force of last

BY PAUL STEPHENS

Sale 20
Newcastle 28

season. Their pack lacks the unyielding hardness of Dean Ryan or the pace and deftness of Pat Lam. But against a Sale eight who have struggled to impose themselves throughout a disappointing campaign, they were confronted by no significant threat; even when the Sale number eight, Dion O'Cuinneagain, scored a breathtaking try, leveled the scores at 20-20, with 14 minutes remaining.

If Newcastle have found it difficult to win away from Tyneside, Sale have had difficulty winning anywhere. This was their fifth successive league defeat; three of which have been in Manchester. Their pack may have all the substance of yoghurt, but they possess pace in abundance, which is why the

England coach, Clive Woodward, was at Heywood Road to take a closer look at their teenage winger, Steve Hanley. While the strapping Hanley, 6ft 3in, and 16 stone, ensured that Woodward's journey was not wasted by scoring a try in first-half stoppage time, it was two other England hopefuls, Tony Underwood and Jonny Wilkinson, who turned the match.

It was delicately balanced at 13-13, after Steve Davidson had scored Sale's second try. Underwood was then apparently kicked at a ruck, which may lead Newcastle to take further action, once the have studied the video. The Newcastle coach, Steve Bates, said afterwards: "I had a good view of the incident and Tony was clearly stamped on the head several times."

If Underwood was aggrieved at his treatment, which required three stitches, he then

wounded Sale where it hurts most, by intercepting a loose pass from Chris Yates to score by the posts. Wilkinson converted that, as he did George Graham's try, to add to two earlier penalties, before delivering the knock-out blow after O'Cuinneagain's intervention.

In a frenetic finish, Wilkinson struck a 45-metre penalty and Hugh Vyvyan grabbed a debut try to keep the championship dream alive. Sale: Tries Davidson, O'Cuinneagain, Hanley; Conversions: Howard; Penalties: Howard. Newcastle: Tries Graham, Underwood, Vyvyan; Conversions: Wilkinson; Penalties: Wilkinson. Sale: Tries Davidson, O'Cuinneagain, Hanley; Conversions: Howard; Penalties: Howard. Newcastle: Tries Graham, Underwood, Vyvyan; Conversions: Wilkinson; Penalties: Wilkinson.

Anthony Sullivan must sit and wait, like the rest of Wales coach Graham Henry's national squad, to see if he has done enough to earn a place in the Wales team to face Scotland in the Five Nations Championship at Murrayfield on 6 February.

Unfortunately, and despite the lack of quality international wings in Welsh rugby, it seems as though Sullivan, who completed his three-month loan deal at Cardiff on Saturday, will have to wait a little longer before realising his latest sporting dream. There can be no question about Sullivan's raw talent or his rugby league pedigree, but a chest muscle injury before Christmas and a lack of opportunity since has prevented his immediate progression.

"I have enjoyed my time at Cardiff and I would like to come back at some time," he said. "I would also like to think that I would get another chance to play for Wales, possibly at A team level. But that is out of my hands. I will go home this week

and what a way to dispose of unruly fans.

And the return of Frank Warren from a £7.2m beating in the States by Don King has him talking about continued support, though he is also talking to others about offers. This prompted the coach Rodi Straeuli to say not only that he needed a couple more beefy forwards and a goal kicker, but he expected to have the funds to sign them in the next couple of weeks.

Nor did he want to lose any of his present squad who, far from being hang-dog about not a single win since 10 October, are still ripping into the ankles of their opponents.

It is the relationship between the players and the spectators that is keeping the game going and, as Robinson pointed out, they had seen a good game. "Some might say Bedford were better than us," he conceded.

The difference was Bath's ability to capitalise on opportunities plus the kicking of Mike Catt, both tactical and at goal. The try count was three apiece, though Bedford's Richard Elliott was unlucky to be disallowed a first half wriggle, when Bedford were all over Bath, to add to his final seconds flourish under the posts.

But the big hearts of Dan Zaltzman and Alistair Murdoch could not eclipse the quality of Iain Balshaw and Adeayo Adebayo, plus a penalty try warranting no informed complaint.

But even an eclipsed sun has a visible, fiery rim.

Bedford: Tries Murdoch, Zaltzman, Elliott; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch. Bath: Tries Balshaw, Murdoch; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch. Bedford: Tries Murdoch, Zaltzman, Elliott; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch. Bath: Tries Balshaw, Murdoch; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch.

A Josh Lewsey try and Gareth Rees conversion to a single penalty for Jarvis gave Waspas a 7-3 interval lead, but after Jarvis had cut the deficit to a single point, Davies was sent over by Rob Howley after Steve Moore had wrestled the ball free from Rees.

Rees kicked a penalty to keep the pot boiling, but Jarvis killed off any hopes of Waspas completing an unlikely double, with a drop goal on 78 minutes.

Cardiff: Tries Davies; Penalties: Jarvis (2); Drop goal: Jarvis; Waspas: Try: Lewsey; Conversions: Rees; Penalties: Rees. Cardiff: Tries Davies; Penalties: Jarvis (2); Drop goal: Jarvis; Waspas: Try: Lewsey; Conversions: Rees; Penalties: Rees.



Lee Davies, the Swansea stand-off, is tackled by Saracens' back row Ben Cole during yesterday's match at Vicarage Road Robert Hallam

Bath take wrecking ball to Rec

CRISIS. WHAT crisis? With all the talk of doom for the professional game and financial disaster even for its illustrious clubs there was a jolting experience from top to bottom at Goldington Road.

The Bath coach Andy Robinson's happiness could be explained simply by the comfort of a third league win thickening the scar tissue over the wound of six consecutive defeats. But his biggest grin was for the news of a £30m plan to redevelop the Recreation Ground in partnership with the council.

Away goes the clubhouse, where a new stand would be

BY STUART ALEXANDER

Bedford 17
Bath 30

built, away goes the old river-side stand, replaced by a new one incorporating a clubhouse, and up goes the number of seats in the Teacher's stand.

The scheme to increase capacity to 15,000 then accelerates into Disneyworld. The grassland to the east of the pitch, at the moment disguised by scaffolding, would, at the touch of a button, rise majestically as the stand stowed underground lifted skywards. What confi-

dence, and what a way to dispose of unruly fans.

And the return of Frank Warren from a £7.2m beating in the States by Don King has him talking about continued support, though he is also talking to others about offers. This prompted the coach Rodi Straeuli to say not only that he needed a couple more beefy forwards and a goal kicker, but he expected to have the funds to sign them in the next couple of weeks.

Nor did he want to lose any of his present squad who, far from being hang-dog about not a single win since 10 October, are still ripping into

the ankles of their opponents.

It is the relationship between the players and the spectators that is keeping the game going and, as Robinson pointed out, they had seen a good game. "Some might say Bedford were better than us," he conceded.

The difference was Bath's ability to capitalise on opportunities plus the kicking of Mike Catt, both tactical and at goal. The try count was three apiece, though Bedford's Richard Elliott was unlucky to be disallowed a first half wriggle, when Bedford were all over Bath, to add to his final seconds flourish under the posts.

Bedford: Tries Murdoch, Zaltzman, Elliott; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch. Bath: Tries Balshaw, Murdoch; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch. Bedford: Tries Murdoch, Zaltzman, Elliott; Conversions: Murdoch; Penalties: Murdoch.

A Josh Lewsey try and Gareth Rees conversion to a single penalty for Jarvis gave Waspas a 7-3 interval lead, but after Jarvis had cut the deficit to a single point, Davies was sent over by Rob Howley after Steve Moore had wrestled the ball free from Rees.

Rees kicked a penalty to keep the pot boiling, but Jarvis killed off any hopes of Waspas completing an unlikely double, with a drop goal on 78 minutes.

Cardiff: Tries Davies; Penalties: Jarvis (2); Drop goal: Jarvis; Waspas: Try: Lewsey; Conversions: Rees; Penalties: Rees. Cardiff: Tries Davies; Penalties: Jarvis (2); Drop goal: Jarvis; Waspas: Try: Lewsey; Conversions: Rees; Penalties: Rees.

Forearm smash bruises Bracken

BY CHRIS HEWETT

Saracens 59
Swansea 29

HEAVEN HELP us when these Anglo-Welsh friendlies finally turn serious. There was all manner of mayhem at Vicarage Road yesterday: blood, guts, naked aggression, a sending off - well, the referee was dear old Fred Howard - and some top-drawer attacking rugby.

In short, a cracking afternoon at the races. "I don't think the crowd will be complaining about not getting their money's worth," said John Plumtree, the Swansea coach. "Fantastic," agreed Francois Pienaar, his Saracens counterpart.

Eleven tries and 88 points might suggest a degree of showboating from two of the more imaginative club sides currently playing their trade in the morass that passes for British professional union, but nothing could be further from the truth. This was full-on, balls-out, hang-on-to-your-hats stuff, topped off by a virtuoso, Five Nations-class display from Kyran Bracken. By the time the Welshmen caught up with him an hour into the game - one sharp forearm in the face was enough to curtail his afternoon's exercise - he had done them irreparable damage.

Shorn of their first-choice props and two-thirds of their optimum loose-forward combination, Saracens were unable to maintain the early momentum that earned them 12 points in nine minutes. Swansea hurt the Londoners in the scrumage, tore them up in the rucks and reached the interval three points to the good at 18-15, courtesy of a sharp finish from the slippery Matthew Robinson and the clearest of penalty try decisions from Howard.

Then came the Saracen flood: three tries and 19 points between the 48th and 56th minutes. Brendan Daniel on one wing, the debutant Barry Lea on the other and Bracken up the middle all made their mark on the scoreboard and Swansea's frustration was such that Dean Thomas, a back row replacement for Paul Moriarty, could think of nothing better to do than smash an elbow into George Clutts' face. Thomas had been on the field a whole nine minutes when Howard politely invited him to get back off again.

The remainder of the match belonged to a 19-year-old full-back from Redruth by the name of Rob Thirby, who stroked over two conversions and a penalty with all the aplomb of a Michael Lynagh and also left the Swansea cover for dead with a glorious hell-skelter sprint to the left corner. "We need to work on his positioning, but he can run and kick like you'd never believe," smiled Pienaar. The best part of £6,000 Saracens supporters believe it already.

Saracens: Tries Daniel 2, Ravenscroft, Ogilvie, Lea, Bracken, Hill, Thirby; Conversions: Johnson 3, Thirby 2; Penalties: Thirby 2, Johnson. Swansea: Tries Robinson, Penalty Try, Weatherley; Conversions: Davies; Penalties: Davies 4. Swansea: G. Johnson (R Thirby 64); B. Lea, R. Constance, S. Ravenscroft, B. Daniel, A. Pienaar, R. Bracken (capt), M. Clutts, S. B. Reddy, G. Clutter, A. Oliver (D. Flanagan, 70); Vardell (P. Johns, 30); D. Greenwood, P. Ogilvie, B. Cole (A. Diprose, 1-1), R. Hill.

Swansea: D. Weatherley, R. Rees, M. Taylor, S. Gibbs (capt), C. Van Rensburg, T. Jones, D. Morris, G. Jennings, C. Anthony (B. Evans, 75); T. Maullin (A. Moore, 64); P. Arnold, P. Moriarty (D. Thomas, 56); J. Jones, C. Charlts. Referee: F. Howard (Liverpool).

RESULTS AND TABLES, PAGE 21

Defeat fails to silence Pompey fans



GLENN MOORE

Portsmouth
Leeds United

1
5

FOR A club trying to sell itself Portsmouth's 5-1 drubbing by Leeds United on Saturday would appear to be right down in the Gerald Ratner class of advertisement. Alan Ball used the words "woeful" and "awful" to describe his team's second-half performance, but Ratner's famously succinct description of his company's jewellery, "crap", would be equally appropriate.

But while the scoreline might scare off the sort of rich and kindly benefactor Pompey fans hope will rescue them from Martin Gregory's ownership, any putative investors actually present at Fratton Park should have formed a more positive view.

While the team were outclassed by a Leeds team rich in promise, the supporters were not. It was no surprise to hear the Pompey Chimes ringing out from the club's biggest crowd in just under five years at kick-off, nor after Luke Nightingale had put them ahead after eight minutes. But to hear them still being belted out eight minutes from the end, after Leeds had scored their fifth was remarkable.

Alan Ball, whose name was lustily and approvingly chanted long after his team had folded, described them as "fabulous" and David O'Leary, the Leeds boss, called them "a credit to the club".

Literally so. With the club's estimated £4m-plus debt increasing by £40,000 every week, the ground still in need of major refurbishment and most of the better players already sold, the supporters may be Portsmouth's only credit on the balance sheet.

They are, however, a very real asset. As Newcastle and Sunderland have shown, a



Portsmouth's veteran striker Steve Claridge hurdles an attempted tackle by the Leeds midfielder Bruno Ribeiro during Saturday's FA Cup tie at Fratton Park

Allsport

large and dedicated supporter base can provide the financial and emotional drive to transform clubs. But first, the foundations must be in place and all that passion will go to waste at Portsmouth unless it is matched in the boardroom.

Having fought off one winding-up order in midweek Portsmouth face another one, issued by the Inland Revenue, on 3 February. There are suggestions that Gregory may offload his 97 per cent stake in the club before then but Ball did not seem optimistic. Nor are the fans who held up banners calling for Gregory to sell. They fear Gregory is planning to build houses on Fratton Park - it is thought the clause

preventing this happening until the club has been relocated lapses in July.

While Portsmouth's future is uncertain, Leeds' appears very bright. Even with eight leading players unavailable they looked a slick outfit, brimming with pace and movement. They lined up for kick off with seven players on the half-way line and maintained that commitment to attack throughout.

"It suits our style to go forward," said David Hopkin, who was an outstanding captain in midfield. "We have a lot of young attacking players with a lot of pace and a lot of talent. Everybody wants the ball, they are all comfortable with it."

O'Leary added: "I believe the

players are enjoying it, this is an extension of what we do in training. Anyone who has seen us over the last few months would think 'This is a side which gives you a go'.

"They want to work for you. With the kids we are young together. They know deep down they are safe in my hands. I'm their friend and they come and see me, they trust me. They know I got in as a kid and think 'Maybe he knows what he's talking about'.

"It wasn't a gamble to play them. When I was the coach I kept asking George [Graham] to play them, once I became manager I was picking the team myself so I thought I'd pick them. They've not sur-

prised me. I have been working with them for two years and knew their quality. But we have got to add a bit, a few quick fixes. I've spent hardly any money and I've had to flog them a bit too much. The difference between us and Manchester United when their crop came through is that they had real quality senior players and could bring people in and leave them out when they needed to."

Not that Leeds were all fresh from kindergarten, they finished with three teenagers but started with just one, Jonathon Woodgate, and had a vein of experience running through the side from Nigel Martyn and David Wetherall, to Gunnar Halle, Hopkins and Jimmy

Floyd Hasselbaink, all 26 or over.

Instead it was Portsmouth who had the youngest player on the pitch, Nightingale, who had been at school during the week. He put Pompey ahead, following good work by Jeff Pardon and Steve Claridge, but it was to prove a brief glimpse of glory.

Two minutes later Leeds levelled with a bad goal to concede. No defender noticed Harte stealing up for a short corner routine, and none picked up Wetherall as he headed the subsequent cross in. Harte scored from a free-kick foolishly conceded by Sammy Igoe six minutes later and, though Pompey played some good football at this stage, with

Claridge often involved, that was it.

The third goal, clinically finished by Harry Kewell, knocked the heart out of Portsmouth, who, said Ball angrily, "capitulated". Bruno Ribeiro added a cruel fourth after his shot was massively deflected off Adrian Whitbread and Clyde Wijnhard completed the rout with a classy fifth from Kewell's cross.

There could, and should, have been more with Hasselbaink notably profligate, but Portsmouth might also have had consolation as Martyn produced two exceptional saves to deny Michalis Vlachos and Claridge.

"I said to David O'Leary he's got a fabulous future,"

said Ball. "You can see the excitement, there's ability throughout the side and the kids are tremendous. It's all there for him."

One questioner asked: "Are you envious?" Ball, whose sponsored Mercedes was recently repossessed, replied: "I'm happy here, but it's a massive job at the moment."

Goals: Nightingale (8) 1-0; Wetherall (10) 1-1; Harte (16) 1-2; Kewell (50) 1-3; Ribeiro (70) 1-4; Wijnhard (82) 1-5.
Portsmouth (3-5-2): Wright; Wagerman (Phillips, 55); Whitbread; Vlachos; Robinson; Igoe; McLaughlin; Pardon; Simpson; Claridge; Nightingale (Pardon, 70). Substitutes not used: Harte; Fishman (90); Perrett.
Leeds United (4-3-2-1): Martyn; Harte; Wetherall; Woodgate; Granville (Jones, 74); Halle (Kewell, 84); Hopkins; Ribeiro; Korson (Hartland, 62); Kewell; Hasselbaink. Substitutes not used: Wright; Robinson (95).
Referee: G Willard (Worthington).
Bookings: Leeds Hasselbaink, Ribeiro.
Man of the match: Hopkins.
Attendance: 18,864.

Bickering Magpies have the luck

"BEENA long time since I rock 'n' rolled," Robert Plant blared over St James' Park's public address system at 2.55pm on Saturday. It's been just as long, he might have sung, since the cabinet upstairs had a domestic trophy of note to display.

Not since 1955, in fact, the year Bill Haley and his Comets were rocking around the clock, have Newcastle United won one of English football's major prizes. And the clock is likely to be ticking for some time yet before the glint of silverware is glimpsed on the northern bank of the Tyne.

Though they managed to stay on the seasonal trophy trail

BY SIMON TURNBULL

Newcastle United 3
Bradford City 0

At St James' on Saturday, Newcastle looked far from cup-winning material. Outclassed for the best part of an hour, they were fortunate that Bradford lacked the goalscoring touch to exploit their superiority.

Paul Jewell's polished side lacked luck, too, Jamie Lawrence being denied a clear penalty when brought down by Shay Given in the 27th minute, the keeper's right-hand post stopping a Stuart McCall header in first-half injury time and

the otherwise impressive Robbie Blake missing the sitter of the match a minute before Alan Shearer left Bradford chasing a two-goal deficit.

Newcastle, until they were in that fortuitous comfort zone seven minutes into the second-half, looked precisely what they are: a team in limbo. It was significant, as well as ironic, that all three of their goals came from players uncertain of their place in Round Gullit's scheme of things at St James' Park.

Dietmar Hamann, whose tap-in gave Newcastle the lead in the 32nd minute, was complained in the German press of being ignored both on the pitch

and off it by a boss, he insists, who deems him surplus to requirements. And reports of Shearer being at odds with the deadlocked Dutchman were hardly dismissed by the glancing cool manner in which the £15m man walked past his manager after his pre-match warm-up. There was not a flicker of recognition between the two.

Even Temur Ketsbaia, who set up the first two goals and scored the third himself with four minutes remaining, was in axe-grinding mood on Saturday. "Everybody makes mistakes," he said, "but when I make one I'm out of the team for weeks."

The Georgian needs to play

in every game for the rest of the season to qualify for another year permit and there are no permanent fixtures in Gullit's team. The Newcastle manager continues to shuffle his unsettled pack from week to week and further changes are imminent, with bids for Taribo West and Ibrahim Ba on Milanese tables.

Gullit clearly wants to shuffle out a lot of his inherited playing stock before he settles on a team of his own design - and the uncertainty within his squad shows. It is just as well, as he plays his game of patience, that his side avoided defeat on Saturday. The Toon Army are pin-

ning with increasing longing for the dashing days of old at St James' Park and a loss to lower league opposition would have tried their patience to the limit as they prepare to welcome back Kevin Keegan for Peter Beardsley's testimonial match on Wednesday.

Goals: Hamann (32) 1-0; Shearer (52) 2-0; Ketsbaia (86) 3-0.
Newcastle United (4-4-2): Given; Griffin; Dabson; Charvet; Dorr; Solano (Giles, 84); Hamann; Speed; Brady; Ketsbaia; Shearer. Substitutes not used: Hughes; Barton; Anderson; Harper (84).
Bradford City (4-4-2): Walsh; Wright (Ramsay, 55); Moore; Westwood; Jacobs; Lawrence; McCall; Whalley; Beagrie; Bille; Mills. Substitutes not used: Dwyer; Ramage; O'Brien; Prudhoe (94).
Referee: P Durrant (Preston).
Bookings: Bradford: Moore.
Man of the match: Whalley.
Attendance: 36,698.

Stockport are sunk by the class divide

"NOT AT all," was the Stockport manager Gary Megson's brief response when asked if this had been an emotional return to the ground both he and his father Don had graced for so long as players.

"The place for emotion is out on the pitch and we didn't show enough emotion, passion or desire. It didn't look like an FA Cup tie." It was an honest assessment of a match his side were lucky to come out of only two goals adrift.

This was an end-to-end cup tie, but the traffic was all from one end to the other, and it was Wednesday who were in the driving seat. Megson's tactics were those of a struggling First Division manager who had adopted if drawn away to an in-form Premiership club - pack your penalty area with defenders and limit the damage in the hope of snatching something on the break.

That the strategy had a modicum of success in the first half was due less to the five man defensive cordon than to the lucky charm Carlo Nash seemed to have suspended over his goal. But the game plan had started to unravel as early as the seventh minute when Tony Dinning, who had been tasked to do a man-marking job on Benito Carbone - whom Megson had correctly identified as Wednesday's main threat - limped off. His replacement, Jim Gannon, did well enough, but few defenders would have tamed the Italian striker in his current form.

"We let him go twice and Wednesday scored twice," said Megson. Carbone set up the first goal with a swivel and cross from the by-line for Wednesday's Brazilian defender Emerson Thome to score his first goal in English football after 16 minutes, and wrapped it up with a spectacular individual strike from 35

BY PHIL ANDREWS

Sheffield Wednesday 2
Stockport County 0

yards early in the second half that left Nash flat-footed as the ball flew over his head and dipped into the net.

But Carbone's influence stretched much further. He and Nicolas Alexanderson unpicked the Stockport defence at will down the right, and both missed a couple of chances in the first half that would have put Stockport out of the Cup and their misery much earlier.

All County provided to cheer their supporters was a header from Gannon that flew wide and a burst through the middle by Brett Angell which was halted by Wednesday's captain, Peter Atherton, before the striker could get in his shot. But for the most part the difference in class was infinite, with County's hopeful long balls an inadequate response to Wednesday's quick and incisive passing game.

"We didn't play as fluidly as we have recently," said Wednesday's manager, Danny Wilson, "but I was pleased that we kept a third clean sheet in a row. A good cup run is very important to us over the problems we've had over the Di Carlo incident, and a win at any level breeds confidence." The only cloud on his horizon is that victory over another County - Derby - on Saturday could bring the curse of manager of the month down on his head.

Goals: Thome (16) 1-0; Carbone (57) 2-0.
Sheffield Wednesday (4-2-2): Dinning; Thome; Alexanderson; Radd; Jank; Sonner; Humphreys (Booth, 82); Carbone. Substitutes not used: Freeman (89); Briscoe; Strelanov.
Stockport County (3-3-2): Nash; County; Woodhouse; Hume; McIntosh; Dinning (Gannon, 7); Cook; McInnes; Phillips (Walters); Gray; Cooper; Wilshaw.
Referee: N Barry (Southampton).
Bookings: Stockport: Woodhouse, Hines.
Sent off: Stockport: Cook.
Man of the match: Carbone.
Attendance: 20,904.

Derby given glimpse of future by Smith's blast from the past

THE ROAD to Wembley is lined with the corpses of teams who did not deserve to perish. Derby County finally tossed aside Swansea's and left South Wales believing they can improve on a poor Cup record of recent years.

Two quarter-finals are the best they have achieved. Jim Smith has been closer, desperately so when Portsmouth lost to Liverpool on penalties in the semi-finals in 1992, and he would be a popular choice to lead out one of the teams at Wembley on 22 May.

After 30 years in management, he may have mellowed - "Jim Smith, The Tea-Cup Throwing Years" will be only part one of the autobiography - but courses are still on offer in (very) basic English to his cosmopolitan playing staff on requisite occasions, of which half-time on Saturday was one. "I can still turn the air blue when I have to," Smith said. "Some strong words were said, because we'd been very disappointing. Had we not improved, there was a major danger that we would have gone out."

As ever, that was an honest assessment. Swansea had created the only chances in the

BY STEVE TONGUE

Swansea City 0
Derby County 1

first 45 minutes, as well as looking the more determined side: a dreadful indictment of men on Premiership salaries. After Dean Burton and goalkeeper Mart Poom had been left lying injured following the home side's first attack, Spencer Prior, the captain, was one of two few players ready to meet dragon's fire with fire.

Burton, still suffering, was withdrawn before half-time, allowing Kevin Harper an opportunity to prove that his worth is more than the £300,000 Smith paid for him earlier in the season. The former Hibernian striker belatedly gave the home goalkeeper Roger Freestone some work to do, though nothing initially that compared to Mart Poom's two stops from Swansea's Nick Cusack. It was nine minutes from time before Horacio Carbonari produced one touch of class to elude his man and place a cross on the unmarked Harper's head.

Matthew Bound's header was the last act of defiance from the dying Swans, whose

proud and impressive manager John Hollins has transformed them from the ugly ducklings placed just above the bottom of the Third Division last May.

Now Hollins and the club's reconstituted board, with a new £25m stadium to fund, may find it difficult to resist the offers that will undoubtedly come in for players like the wide midfielder Stuart Roberts. "Over-all they have to be very proud of what they've achieved," Hollins said. "Now we've got to get stuck in and hopefully get out of this league."

Meanwhile Derby, whose last visit to the Vetch had been for a Third Division fixture, were setting their sights on seeing the Twin Towers before they are demolished. They will need to show greater commitment to the cause, but there is every chance of Smith ensuring that.

Goals: Harper (81) 1-0.
Swansea City (4-4-2): Freestone; Jones; Bound; O'Leary (Bird, 82); Howard; Roberts; Cusack; Lacey; Coates (Appleby, 85); Varnon; Alsop. Substitutes not used: Price; Jenkins; Jones (93).
Derby County (3-4-1-2): Poom; Prior; Carbonari; Schuster; Lumsden; Carls; Bohren (Kozub, 83); Dongo; Sano (Elliot, 62); Burton (Harper, 44); Sturridge. Substitutes not used: Hunt; Hault (84).
Referee: G Barber (Tring).
Bookings: Swansea: Waddan; Alsop; Cusack; Derby: Schuster; Sturridge.
Man of the match: Cusack.
Attendance: 11,352.

Marcelo steals it as County pay high price for lack of self-belief

AS THE oldest club in the football league, Notts County tend to do things at their own pace, so while the other 15 FA Cup fixtures this weekend were four-round ties, Nottingham was trapped in a third-round time-war.

After this humdinger of a replay, they are unfortunate not to be in the fifth-round hat after a defeat in extra-time to last year's semi-finalists. "I thought we were out," Sheffield United's manager, Steve Bruce, commented afterwards. And so they should have been.

As hosts, Notts County were overwhelmingly generous, conceding three late goals in nine minutes to a Sheffield side who were, for the most part, unimaginative and pedestrian. County, in contrast, were a breath of fresh air and their defeat came down to a lack of concentration and self-belief which finds them fourth from bottom of the Second Division.

History, ancient and modern, dictated a cup classic. Notts County's Gary Owers played on the losing side for Sunderland in the 1982 FA Cup final while Steve Bruce was twice a Wembley winner with Manchester United, his last medal coming

BY PETER CONCHIE

Notts County 3
Sheffield United 4

a century after Notts County's only Cup success at Goodison Park in 1894. Jimmy Logan was the East-Midlanders' hero that afternoon, becoming the first player to score a hat-trick in an FA Cup final. A year later he died of pneumonia after a team-mate forgot to pack the kit for an away trip.

While Saturday's result was not a tragedy of that order, events, like their truly dreadful pitch, cut up rough for Notts County. Gary Jones put them ahead with a shot high into the net, before Vasilis Borbokos regained undeserved parity with a neat free-kick which wrong-footed the goalkeeper, Darren Ward.

Shaun Murray, by a street the classiest player on the pitch, put County ahead with a beautifully struck left-footed drive from 30 yards and Jones increased their lead with seven minutes to go with his sixth FA Cup goal of the season.

With the never-say-die spirit of their manager, David Holdsworth pulled one goal

back for United before the Brazilian forward Marcelo equalised almost on the final whistle. In extra-time, as heavy legs dragged in the sand, it was the Sheffield stealers who emerged as unlikely winners as Marcelo scored his second goal from close range.

Sam Allardyce, the Notts County manager, remarked that he was "gilted" and "very down and disappointed by the outcome".

"We have to defend a lot better than that," he said. "We just didn't defend properly and when you're 3-1 up you just don't let teams back into the game. At the moment, football is not a game I'm enjoying."

A feeling exacerbated, no doubt, by the fact that his team had only themselves to blame.

Goals: Jones (19) 1-0; Borbokos (40) 1-1; Murray (57) 2-1; Jones (83) 3-1; Holdsworth (85) 3-2; Marcelo (89) 3-3; Marcelo (94) 3-4.
Notts County (4-3-3): Ward; Pearce (Turner, 106); Richardson; Redmile; Hendon; (Burd, 66); Owers; Murray; Jones; Hughes (Gaul, 56); Day (Sturridge, 99). Substitutes not used: Beattie (84); Duffey.
Sheffield United (4-4-2): Kelly; Oram; Sandford; Holdsworth; O'Connor (Ford, 75); Borbokos; Henry (Morris, 61); Woodhouse; Jarvis; Stuart; Marcelo (Jacobson, 110). Substitutes not used: Walker; Davis (84).
Referee: A Wiley (Stafford).
Bookings: Notts County: Murray. Sheffield: off: Sheffield: Ute: Laine.
Man of the match: Murray.
Attendance: 7,499.

Hayward the happy Villa supporter

STEVE HAYWARD'S footballing pedigree is hardly unique. He was born, for instance, in the same year as Stan Collymore, brought up in a neighbouring part of the Midlands and may well have rubbed shoulders with the £7m edgema on the Hotte End. On Saturday night, however, Hayward was probably the only Aston Villa supporter out celebrating the club's demise in the FA Cup.

While speculation raged about the extent to which Collymore's no-show had affected the Premiership title contenders, there was no doubt about Hayward's contribution to the defeat of his boyhood heroes. As the driving force of Fulham's midfield, he created the first goal for the Birmingham City-supporting Simon Morgan and claimed the second himself after his free-kick took a deflection off Paul Peschisolidi.

It was, said Hayward with what was possibly understatement, his greatest day since arriving at Fulham from Carlisle shortly before the advent of Mohamed Al Fayed and Kevin Keegan late in 1997. As a boy he had watched Villa and trained with them before committing himself to Derby, while last week his spare time had been eaten up by the problem of acquiring more than 50 tickets for his extended family.

Whatever the cost, it was worth the outlay. Once the two-bridge-head to the last 16 had been established, the control exerted by the Second Division promotion favourites was so complete that beating the side who have led the Premiership virtually all season never really felt like a giant-killing.

Hayward, who also scored at Southampton in the third round, reasoned that teams

BY PHIL SHAW

Aston Villa 0
Fulham 2

from the top flight are not accustomed to being "hustled and hassled" the way Fulham snapped at Villa's heels. They also allowed opponents "more room to play", which was surely an indictment of John Gregory's side on the day rather than the Premiership as a whole.

Kevin Keegan, still working under the nonsensical title of chief operating officer, was equally effusive. Apart from Liverpool's Wembley triumph of 25 years ago, the Cup has not been kind to Fulham's manager, but it now offers them a welcome respite from their role as the Manchester United, the moneybags, of the lower leagues.

"We were totally relaxed," said Keegan. "It was the exact opposite of what we experience in the League every week. The boot was on the other foot. But what really pleased me was the way we played. We weren't scrambling around, but playing properly. The better the quality of the opposition, the better we play."

That much was perhaps to be expected, given that Keegan has lavished some £10m on upgrading the Craven Cottage squad. Like Hayward's ticket-scrounging spree, it looked like money well spent, with no more impressive than the £2.1m captain, Chris Coleman, at the heart of an unflappable three-man defensive unit.

Coleman, who was at Crystal Palace with both Collymore and Gareth Southgate, must have anticipated a more arduous afternoon. But with Dion Dublin injured and Collymore missing, presumed sulking, on a day when his ability to turn

games as a substitute might well have been crucial, the Fulham goalkeeper Maik Taylor was seldom stretched.

The goals came early enough for Gregory to believe Villa could still produce the kind of fightback that earned victory from an identical position at home to both Stromsgodset and Arsenal. Instead, Coleman and company stood firm and Fulham's front two held the ball up so well that the expected second-half siege never materialised.

Such successes, argued Keegan, made the supporters believe Fulham were "going places". In fact, they lost the divisional leadership to Preston on Saturday, but could regain it by overcoming Oldham tomorrow, when the Belgian utility player Philippe Albert will be available at the start of his loan spell from Newcastle.

Talking of Tyneside, Keegan will make a brief but emotional playing comeback on Wednesday in Peter Beardsley's testimonial match. His adoring public should see a happier, healthier man than the haggard figure who left St James' Park. The relationship with London's romantic under-achievers is obviously proving mutually beneficial. Fulham having reached the fifth round for the first time since their run to the final in 1975.

Goals: Morgan (8) 0-1; Hayward (45) 0-2.

Aston Villa (3-5-2): Oakes; Ehigbo, Southgate, Barry, Watson, Hendrie, I Taylor, Scimeca, Wright (Nassell, 59); Merson, Joachim. Substitutes not used: Grayson, Ferrarini, Hughes, Rachel (84).

Fulham (3-5-2): M Taylor; Symons, Morgan, Coleman, Finnan, Collins, Bracewell, Hayward, Brevett; Peschisolidi (Smith, 82), Horsfield. Substitutes not used: Trottier, Salako, Hayles, Arendse (94).

Referee: D Elleray (Harrow-on-the-Hill). Bookings: Villa; Ehigbo, Hendrie, Watson, Finnan, Finnan. Man of the match: Coleman. Attendance: 35,260.



Fulham's Steve Hayward (right) is mobbed by his team-mates after scoring against Aston Villa. News Team

Barmby keeps Everton afloat

BY DAVE HADFIELD

Everton 1
Ipswich Town 0

ONE OF the few bright spots for Everton during a barren Premiership campaign has been the form and influence of Don Hutchison.

A player generally regarded as an unreliable luxury during his time across Stanley Park with Liverpool has returned to Merseyside after his travels to become central to Everton's hopes of achieving anything this year.

In the absence of Olivier Dacourt and John Collins on Saturday, Hutchison, promoted to captain, had not only to provide much of the attacking thrust from midfield, but also to anchor it. He did it so effectively that Everton overcame their customary lack of scoring potential plus the added handicap of playing almost half of the game with 10 men with some comfort.

Hutchison made an important contribution to the winning goal, showing great tenacity in pursuing a mis-hit shot from Danny Cadamarteri - who was later booked for diving by the referee who took a more lenient view of David Ginola's tumbles last week - almost to the sideline and then putting in a telling cross that was eventually converted by Nick Barmby.

They were not helped by the sending off of Marco Materazzi for a second booking after tangling with David Johnson. It was his second dismissal of a season during which he has already served three suspensions - a record that has limited his value to his new club.

Everton, in fact, have defensive problems building up. Apart from Fabian Wilnis's disallowed strike in injury time, they kept Ipswich at bay with some ease, but they could find their resources stretched by Materazzi's continuing disciplinary strife and the addition of Alex Cleland to their injury list. Cleland, performing well in an unaccustomed role in a back three, will be out for six weeks with a calf injury.

For all Hutchison's industry, Everton's relative security in the Premiership is based more on defensive solidity than anything else. If they start to struggle in that department, as well as in front of goal, it could yet be a hard winter at Goodison.

Goals: Barmby (39) 1-0. Everton (3-5-2): Myrnes; Cleland (O'Kane, 87), Materazzi, Unsworth; Watson, Grant, Hutchison, Barmby, Ball, Oser, Cadamarteri (Bracewell, 75). Substitutes not used: Jefferies, Wilson, Stronach (90). Ipswich Town (3-5-2): Wright; Theas (Tanner, 84), Mowbray, Venis, Wilnis, Oler, Stockwell (Bromby, 58), Holland, Cleland; Johnson, Peta (Naylor, 8-1). Substitutes not used: Holster, Bracey (84). Referee: M Riley (Lund). Bookings: Everton; Barmby, Cadamarteri, Ipswich; Theas, Mowbray, Johnson, Bromby, Seadoff, Materazzi. Man of the match: Hutchison. Attendance: 28,854.

Ginola stays on his feet to good effect

IT WAS almost too much of a good thing that David Ginola had been spotted handing over his shirt to referee Dermot Gallagher. "I'm not kidding," Wimbledon's manager Joe Kinnear said, up to mischief with a tasty morsel of information. "Ginola was asked for the shirt and he took it to the referee's dressing-room. Saw it myself."

All week long Kinnear had sought an edge in the ongoing saga of Ginola's thiespan activities and with three more matches to play against Tottenham he was not about to pass up an opportunity. "Just about sums things up," he said.

More to the point Ginola had risen above the grind of a hard fought Cup-tie and pan-

tomime booing without incurring the wrath of Kinnear's defenders. In fact, Gallagher never had cause to exercise his judgement in matters of legality. "Perhaps he [Ginola] is realising that he doesn't need to act up," Kinnear said, "and if that is the case our complaints after last week's match have achieved something. It wasn't so much Ginola's diving for penalties that bothered me as having players sent off."

George Graham had been determined to stay out of the controversy. "I haven't got involved," he said when we spoke on Friday. "I've told David [Ginola] that the best way to deal with all this is on the field."

If Ginola does not always per-



KEN JONES

form to Graham's satisfaction on alien territory (he has been repeatedly substituted away from home) he justified a full stint in the 1-1 draw that added another encounter to the serial. The goal that brought Tottenham level in the 72nd

minute, after Robbie Earle's perfectly executed overhead kick on the hour had raised Wimbledon's hopes of progression, further emphasised the extent of Ginola's ability and imagination.

Nothing much promised for Tottenham when Ginola drifted infield and took a square pass from Stephen Carr with Wimbledon's defence packed in front of him. Pausing, Ginola swayed left then right before slipping past Earle to fire a low shot past Neil Sullivan.

Maybe Graham will prove better for Ginola than any manager he has played under. "I thought he was terrific," Graham said. "Did everything I expect from him."

Ginola's complaint that he does not see enough of the ball in away matches is met by Graham's crushing logic. "It's bound to happen," the Tottenham manager replies. "The home team sees more of the ball, takes more of the initiative."

If Ginola is coming to terms with a pretty obvious fact and responds further to Graham's demanding influence, the best of him may well be seen in Tottenham's colours.

Some of Ginola's work, his sleight of foot, strength on the ball and two-footed accuracy was of the highest order. "Yes, I think he should score more often," Graham smiled, "and that's something he can work on."

As for who prevails in cup ties yet to be played between these teams, it does not seem that there is much more than a goal between them. "We'll certainly know each other well by the time it's all over," Kinnear said.

As Wimbledon have players to bring back, Kinnear thinks that they may last the course better. "It's going to be tight," he said when conveying the unspoken impression that he was not entirely pleased with the outcome of Saturday's proceedings.

Some people present felt, cynically, that the gifting of Ginola's shirt was a sound investment. That, however, would be unfair to Gallagher, who could not be faulted even when

allowing Justin Edinburgh, who had already been booked, to escape the dismissal that seemed inevitable when he flattened Jason Euell.

Reporting that Euell had been left with an ankle injury, Kinnear denounced the perpetrator. It made a change from complaining about the shirtless one.

Goals: Earle (61) 1-0; Ginola (72) 1-1. Wimbledon (4-4-2): Sullivan; Cunningham, Blackwell, Perry, Thatcher; Ardley (Carr, 75), Roberts, Earle, M Hughes, Leaburn, Euell (C. Hughes, 88). Substitutes not used: Kumbie, Kennedy, Head (84). Tottenham Hotspur (4-4-2): Walker; Carr, Vega, Campbell, Edinburgh, Fox (Ferreira, 73), Freund, Anderson, Ginola; Iversen, Armstrong. Substitutes not used: Calderwood, Ince, Sinton, Bardsen (84). Referee: D Gallagher (Banbury). Bookings: Wimbledon; Ardley, Hughes. Tottenham: Edinburgh. Man of the match: Ginola. Attendance: 22,270.

Kidd's able Rovers the fortune hunters

BRIAN KIDD has one thing going for him as he makes his first steps in management: he may or may not be a tactical genius but there is no doubt fortune is smiling on him.

Like his predecessors at Blackburn, Ray Harford and Roy Hodgson, his luck does not extend to injuries but, unlike the managerial ghosts of the past, the results are going in his favour. Who needs most of your first team if you can get away with acts of FA Cup travesty like this?

Throughout this class there was a Premiership-game team performing but it was not the team in blue and white halves. Sunderland, the runaway leaders of the First Division, were by far the better side, yet somehow they managed to bow out at the fourth round stage.

Partly that was their own fault because their reluctance to push them forward undermined their master class in passing, but most of all they fell victim to the flow that is going with Kidd.

That seemed to have run out when Blackburn had Jeff Kenna sent off after 62 minutes for two bookable offences and their goalkeeper John Filan

BY GUY HODGSON

Blackburn Rovers 1
Sunderland 0

carried off after a heavy fall. Even Kidd was wondering whether the 1999 Cup run was coming to an end. "I was hoping my mum had lit plenty of candles for me," he said. "Big ones, too."

Somebody had lit something because four minutes later Blackburn grabbed the goal they scarcely deserved. Keith Gillespie headed goalwards and then picked himself off the floor to crash the ball into the roof of the net after Nathan Blake's point-blank shot had been saved by Thomas Sorensen.

To put it mildly, the goal had been against the run of play. After 15 minutes Quinn's angle was out by fractions as he reached Phillips' cross just ahead of Filan and in the second half Phillips put the ball into the net only to have his celebrations curtailed by a mysterious offside decision.

Once Rovers' goal had gone in Sunderland moved forward with the persistence of the beaming rain but the closest they came to scoring came

when Quinn's shot at the far post shaved the goal.

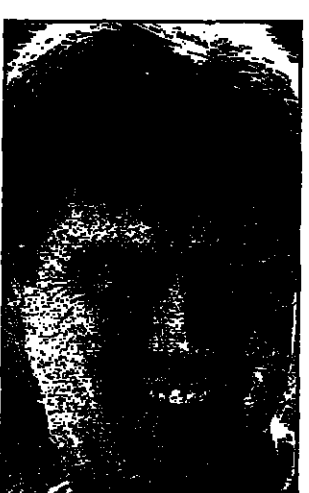
"Sometimes you do not get what you deserve," Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, said. "I know it's a cliché but if your name isn't on the Cup there's not much you can do about it."

"Cup football is all about getting to the next round and we didn't do it," he continued, dispelling the theory that another run might have been a wish too far when promotion to the Premiership is first priority. "If you go down to the dressing-room you'll see the players are very disappointed."

Reid's demeanour seemed to suggest the performance had been a considerable antidote to gloom because it suggested Sunderland will have enough resources to survive this time when they come up. Anyway, there is a wider open gap to Wembley via the Worthington Cup semi-finals this week.

As for Blackburn, anything seems possible with Kidd on this winning streak and if they can get anything like their first team together they have every chance of getting to the final for the first time since 1960.

In the meantime they and the local police might address



Kidd: On winning streak

the chronic traffic problems that bedevil Ewood Park. On Saturday there were still jams getting out of one of the main car parks two hours after the match had finished which, when the crowd is only 30,000, is a long way short of adequate.

Blackburn want big crowds to watch them, but hours of traffic tedium is just about the easiest way to deter them.

Goals: Gillespie (56) 1-0. Blackburn Rovers (3-4-3): Filan (Flowers, 45); Pencock (Blake, 1-1), Henschel, Brown; Kenna, Dunn, Wilson, Davidson; Gillespie, Ward, Duff (Carr, 63). Substitutes not used: Thomas, Taylor.

Sunderland (4-4-2): Sorensen; Mahli, McVie, Butler (Smith, 79), Gray, Rae (Sunderland, 70), Carr, McCann, Johnson; Cullen (Dillon, 88), Phillips. Substitutes not used: Ball, Marriot (84). Referee: S Long (Barnsley). Bookings: Blackburn; Henschel; Sunderland; McCann. Sending off: Blackburn; Kenna. Man of the match: Carr. Attendance: 30,125.

Coventry fill void as Boateng exits early

IF EVER a scoreline was misleading, this would be it. Coventry, on the back foot for the entire second half following George Boateng's bizarre dismissal, were hanging on by their fingertips to a place in the fifth round of the FA Cup for the third season running when Leicester, who had spurned half a dozen clear chances to draw level, won a corner with two minutes to play.

Steve Guppy's reliable left foot swung it over and there was captain Steve Walsh, unmarked at the far post and seemingly certain to score. Instead, his downward header merely sparked a scramble in the Coventry six-yard area but, with almost the entire Leicester team surrounding it, the ball somehow eluded them all.

Coventry's Noel Whelan broke away and fed Paul Telfer, who raced through to end the contest. Another breakthrough goal by Steve Froggatt in injury time was harsh on Leicester.

Having said that, their manager Martin O'Neill can hardly complain. Playing at home, against a team with only 10 men for 45 minutes, they had ample opportunity to at least repeat the 1-1 scoreline the last time

BY ADAM SZRETER

Leicester City 0
Coventry City 3

these two sides met in the Cup, back in 1952.

On that occasion Coventry won the replay 4-1 so maybe it would have been fruitless anyway, but O'Neill was still cursing his luck after Emil Heskey and Muzzy Izet each missed two good chances to equalise. Had either scored the decision to play Izet up front in the absence of the injured Tony Cottee could hardly have been criticised, but with hindsight Leicester may have been better served with Izet and Neil Lennon together in midfield.

The pattern of the game after the break had been determined by three incidents before it. Whelan's exquisite shot from the angle of the penalty area that gave Coventry the lead came amid a spate of bookings, and when O'Neill attempted to return the ball to one of his players for a quick throw-in, Boateng became the sixth to go into Alan Willsie's notebook after blocking O'Neill's throw with his hands. Deliberate handball? Surely

not. Time-wasting, perhaps, but it was a moot point and Boateng was clearly riled as, two minutes later, he crashed into Theo Zagorakis on the edge of the Coventry area and was shown the red card.

Had that influenced the result, the mutual respect between two of the most demonstrative managers in the Premiership would have been tested to the limit, as Coventry's Gordon Strachan was clearly displeased that O'Neill had appealed to the referee to discipline Boateng.

As it is Strachan, for once, had little to moan about and must be hoping his side has turned a corner in recent weeks. For O'Neill and Leicester, there are only two paths they can go and they will do well to avoid the one that sees Coventry coming the other way.

Goals: Whelan (16) 0-1, Telfer (88) 0-2; Froggatt (90) 0-3. Leicester City (4-4-2): Kellar; Sinclair, Elliott, Walsh, Uthmanee (Froggatt, 75); Ince, Zagorakis (Parker, 51), Lennon, Guppy; Izet, Heskey. Substitutes not used: Karmali, Wilson, Appiah (84). Coventry City (4-4-2): Hedman, Edwards, Shaw, Williams, Burrows; Boateng, Soler, McAlester (Clement, 77), Froggatt, Whelan, Huckerby (Ellis, 82). Substitutes not used: Breen, Abid, Ogrizovic (84). Referee: A White (Chester-le-Street). Bookings: Leicester; Izet, Sinclair, Coventry; Burrows, Williams, Edwards. Sending off: Coventry; Boateng. Man of the match: Hedman. Attendance: 21,207.

Desailly fillip for Chelsea

MARCEL DESAILLY has given Chelsea a boost by declaring that he has no intention of leaving at the end of the season.

The French World Cup winner had been quoted last week that he could spring a "surprise" in May by leaving to seek another challenge if the Blues won the title.

However, on his return to London, the defender insisted that his comments had been taken out of context. "It's been a lot of noise over nothing," he maintained. "It's true that I said I would leave Chelsea one day and that it is better to go after winning - it's easier, you are appreciated more and you leave the supporters with a good memory of you. But that's all. There's no problem, I have a four-year contract here."

The Frenchman may not be in the starting line-up at the Manor Ground for tonight FA Cup third-round tie against Oxford United, given his recent injury problems and the form of Michael Duberry. There will be some enforced changes to Chelsea's line-up, though. Albert Ferrer is suspended and Celestine Babayaro is on international duty with Nigeria.

Oxford's on-loan goalkeeper Paul Gerrard is unavailable, the midfielder Joey Beauchamp is suspended while the giant centre-forward Kevin Francis is injured.

SPORT

RANATUNGA IN THE DOCK P19 • VILLA EXIT SIGNS FOR COLLYMORE P22

FA Cup: Late goals cancel out Owen's early strike for Liverpool while Bergkamp's deflected shot sees off Wolves

Solskjaer sting in United's tail

BY GUY HODGSON

Manchester United 2
Liverpool 1

FOR ALL their European glory and championships at home, Liverpool have waited almost 80 years to beat Manchester United in the FA Cup, and they will never come closer than this. It was worse than cruel, the way the prize was snatched away from them yesterday.

They led for 86 minutes but just as they were about to reach the fifth round the door was slammed aggressively in their faces. Disappointment, disbelief and pain was ingrained in every movement of the Liverpool players as they dragged themselves from the field and out of the competition.

A replay was the least the visitors deserved for their dogged defending and prodigious labour but, after Michael Owen put them ahead after 155 seconds, United scored twice in the final two minutes through Dwight Yorke and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer. The sting in the tail of this vibrant tie was deadly.

"The game was five minutes too long for us," Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, moaned. "It's a shame because the players could have written a page in the club's history in capital letters. I feel very proud of what we did. I told the players there was nothing to be ashamed of, they could be satisfied with what they did."

It was 1921 the last time Liverpool beat their bitter rivals in the Cup and Old Trafford fizzed with anticipation as they attempted to put that right. Football empires every foot of the 30 miles that divides Manchester and Merseyside and the heightened tensions that a meeting of these teams evokes was apparent from the start.

Tackles flew in as players tried to leave a reminder for the rest of the game but it was the visitors whose left the first significant mark. Jamie Redknapp swept the ball to the right where Vegard Heggem teased Denis Irwin and then arced a perfect cross towards the penalty spot. Owen, inexplicably unmarked, was waiting and



Liverpool's Stig Inge Bjornebye (left) and Steve Harkness despair as Dwight Yorke scores Manchester United's first goal in yesterday's 2-1 FA Cup win at Old Trafford

David Ashdown

with a huge leap and twist he flicked the ball with his head into the bottom corner.

"It was a terrible start," Alex Ferguson, the United manager said. "God almighty, you wouldn't think a 5ft 6in striker would score with a header in the first minutes at Old Trafford. I wasn't too pleased with that."

Liverpool were delighted. They had their goal and could yield ground to the opposition as they protected what they had, striking out from their fortress when the chance oc-

curred. Their defence has been pilloried regularly but yesterday their central core of Jamie Carragher, Dominic Matteo and Steve Harkness put barely a foot wrong. Indeed, until the climax, United were reduced to half chances and hit and hopes.

The first arrived when Dwight Beckham's cross from the right seemed too long but Roy Keane stretched and headed with such venom that the ball hit the post and ricocheted to Paul Ince on the line. Somehow it did not go into the net. Henning

Berg was also close with a header but Liverpool had weapons of their own and in the closing minutes of the first half only the sharpness of Peter Schmeichel's reflexes denied Patrik Berger.

United had been reduced to near impotence by Liverpool's hard work before the interval but they shook off their sluggishness and began pounding at the door. Ryan Giggs somehow failed to get a touch to Beckham's cross, Keane's shot rebounded off a defender and

passed agonisingly close to a post and Matteo crashed an interception towards his own goal and was fortunate to find the one place James was standing.

The impression was building that United were not going to score no matter what they did and that was reinforced after 79 minutes when Keane's shot beat James, hit the post and bounced to safety. Liverpool twice had opportunities to kill off the tie themselves but first Robbie Fowler fired wide after Owen had ripped apart United's

left flank, then Jaap Stam and Peter Schmeichel managed to deny Fowler more with luck than with sound judgement.

Those misses proved crucial because, as United contemplated throwing Stam forward as a makeshift centre-forward, they got a goal in the 88th minute. Jamie Redknapp was harshly adjudged to have fouled Ronny Johnsen and Beckham's free-kick was headed down by Andy Cole and tapped over the line by Yorke. Cue home relief so profound you

could almost touch it but, more was to follow. Deep into injury time Paul Scholes got possession in the Liverpool area and seemed to have lost the opportunity as he waited an age for the ball to drop for a shot. Instead it fell to Solskjaer, who rifled it past James.

"I've watched Solskjaer's goal on television and he meant to do what he did," Ferguson said. "He looked at the far post, the goalkeeper bought it and he beat him at the near. It was a superb finish." It was a tragic

one for Liverpool. "We're not really interested in the FA Cup," Ferguson said with heavy irony. "We showed that today."

Goals: Owen (2) 0-1, Yorke (88) 1-1, Solskjaer (90) 2-1.
Manchester United (4-4-2): Schmeichel; Harkness, Berg, Johnsen, W. Stam, Webb; Solskjaer (80); Beckham, Butt (Scholes) (88); Keane, Giggs; Yorke, Cole. Substitutes not used: P. Huddlestone, Van der Grinten (88).
Liverpool (3-5-2): James; Carragher, Walters, Harkness, Heggem, Redknapp, Ince (McKenzie) (70); Berger, Bjornebye, Owen, Fowler; Substitutes not used: Warne, McManaman, Leighton, Friedel (88).
Bookings: Blackburn (Walters), Birt, Keane, Giggs, Scholes, Liverpool (Matteo, Owen).
Referee: G. Poll (Wing).
Man of the match: Carragher.
Attendance: 54,501.

Keegan given shot at Ferguson

FULHAM'S REWARD for their FA Cup victory at Aston Villa is a plum fifth-round tie against the favourites, Manchester United, at Old Trafford on the weekend of 13 February.

The tie brings Ferguson and Kevin Keegan face to face, rekindling memories of their confrontation for the Premiership title in 1996, when Keegan

was in charge of Newcastle United. With the title race hotting up, and Newcastle having blown a considerable lead, Keegan let his emotions get the better of him during an interview on television: "I'd just love it if we could beat them [Manchester United]. I'd love it."

Leeds United, who thrashed Portsmouth 5-1 at Fratton Park

on Saturday without eight first-team regulars, will face a reunion with their former manager, if George Graham's new club, Tottenham Hotspur, overcome Wimbledon in a replay. Keith Gillespie, who scored Blackburn Rovers' winner against Sunderland on Saturday, faces a trip back to his old club, Newcastle.

FIFTH-ROUND DRAW

Arsenal v Sheffield Utd or Cardiff
Wrexham or Huddersfield v Derby County
Leeds v Wimbledon or Tottenham
Barnsley v Bristol Rovers
Sheffield Wednesday v Oxford Utd or Chelsea
Everton v Coventry
Newcastle v Blackburn
Manchester Utd v Fulham
Ties to be played weekend of 13/14-15 February

Wenger slams critics as Petit is sent off

ARSENAL CONTINUED to win matches and lose players as they maintained their defence of the FA Cup with a rumbustious fourth-round victory over Wolves.

Their passage to a fifth-round tie at home to Sheffield United or Cardiff City was secured without Emmanuel Petit, who became the seventh Arsenal player to be dismissed this season and the 19th in two years of Arsène Wenger's management.

The French midfielder was dismissed for exchanging words with a linesman three minutes from time. These were clearly choice Anglo-Saxon rather than Gallic, as the referee Steve Dunn responded by sending him off. This added a red card to the yellow he had been given for an 18th minute foul on Carl Robinson.

Usually Wenger does not see his players' crimes, on this occasion he had not heard them. Given the din in the ground this was understandable, but his response underlined how unhappy he has become at his team's image.

"I am not happy with what happened on the field," he said. "I could say too much. There were a lot of things happening off the ball. I do not know what happened to get Emmanuel sent off but I have seen things happen which are not punished - such as Dennis Bergkamp being hit on the jaw - and Emmanuel gets sent off for a minor

BY GLENN MOORE

Wolverhampton Wanderers 1
Arsenal 2

incident. There is a big media campaign against us but we are not a dirty side, we are a nice side, sometimes too nice."

Arsenal, leading through goals from Marc Overmars and Bergkamp, held on to win, although they could easily have been further depleted with both Bergkamp and Gilles Grimandi risking red cards as a mêlée disfigured the closing stages. For their part, Wolves did not shirk a challenge and Kevin Muscat escaped punishment for the wayward arm that left Bergkamp with a cut mouth.

Nine months ago Arsenal had rolled over the old gold in the semi-final at Villa Park but, as the red and yellow cards demonstrated, in front of their own crowd and under new management Wolves were a different proposition.

They were rewarded after 37 minutes when Muscat's long ball lured Manninger into a

reckless rush from his goal. Haavard Flo got there first and skimmed the ball off his head into the unguarded net.

Game on. Petit, Lee Dixon and Nicolas Anelka went close for Arsenal while Robbie Keane, Wolves' 17m-rated teenager who has been attracting Arsenal's attention, showed his quality with a dribble past Adams - and his youth as he twice delayed in good positions.

Then, 10 minutes into the second period Wolves thought they were ahead but Flo, again fed by Muscat, volleyed against the inside of the post.

Arsenal visibly upped the tempo and Mike Stowell made three excellent saves only for Wolves to be undone by a cruel twist. A half-cleared corner fell to Bergkamp 25 yards out, his shot deflected off Flo and Curie before bobbling in. Bergkamp looked a bit embarrassed but, since he had only scored six previous goals this season, he was hardly likely to refute it.

Wolves huffed and puffed but even after Petit's dismissal they could not blow Arsenal's house down.

Goals: Overmars (12) 0-1; Flo (37) 1-1; Bergkamp (69) 1-2.

Wolverhampton Wanderers (4-4-2): Stowell; Adams (Cornolly) (90); Richards, Curie, Muscat; Robinson (Simpson) (51); F. Nelson, Substitutes not used: Nwankwo, Murray (9).

Arsenal (4-4-2): Manninger; Dixon, Adams, Upson, Winterburn; Parfitt, Garce (Olsen) (75); Petit, Overmars (Hughes) (90); Anelka (Grimandi) (87); Bergkamp. Substitutes not used: Cochrane, Lullie (9).

Referee: S. Dunn (Bristol).

Bookings: Wolves (Curie, Adams, Parfitt, Bergkamp, Winterburn, Seadler, Adams, Petit).

Man of the match: Overmars.

Attendance: 27,511.

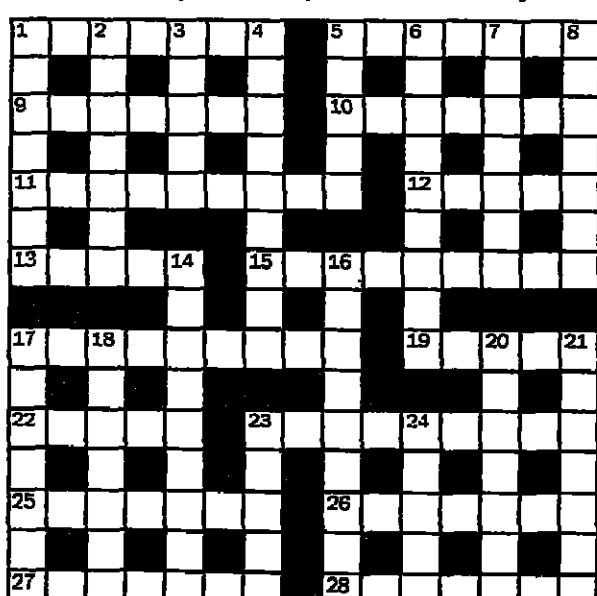
Emmanuel Petit departs as the referee Steve Dunn brandishes the red card, much to Arsenal's fury

PA

THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

No.3828 Monday 25 January

by Portia



ACROSS

- 1 Invent ideal and have done with it (5,2)
- 5 A note hidden by East European performer (7)
- 9 Quick to link up with new town (7)
- 10 Similar old cult ensnares relations (2,1,4)
- 11 Family members unite against figure of fun (4,5)
- 12 Ghost town on the East coast, we hear? (5)

DOWN

- 13 Don't start panic - it's wrong (5)
- 15 Hacking it easily? (2,1,6)
- 17 Didn't go along with Reg's idea about daughter (9)
- 19 Many only retired on Aegean island (5)
- 22 Very little money society advanced composer (5)
- 23 Wealth of meaning? (9)
- 25 Try again to deliver lecture (7)
- 26 Dependent on chap

- 27 Caught in storm (7)
- 28 Makes time to include point that's serious (7)
- 29 Common sense restricting animal one finds harmful (7)

DOWN

- 1 Morally corrupt of French party to grab money (7)
- 2 Queen's refusal received by English king (7)
- 3 Numbers of runners out by half initially (5)
- 4 Team sport on TV? (5,4)
- 5 Suffering turn while in American city (5)
- 6 Conservative element back police (9)
- 7 Fight to contain trouble and help financially (4,3)
- 8 Not much of a catch? (7)
- 14 Lengthy procedure worried a girl more (9)
- 16 Refuse to admit guy's about to become a star (9)
- 17 Germany's minister accepting key rate (7)
- 18 Run from second century superior (7)
- 20 Fine article, work of antiquity? (4,3)
- 21 Investigators hustle out head of state (7)
- 23 Sounds like rooms are pleasant (5)
- 24 Message from the cartel expected soon (5)

MONDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

He's partial to Donna Karan, owns a nice place in Cannes and loves pansies. He's an artist and writer of note. Meet Jimmy Boyle, no longer Scotland's most violent man

The hard man of sculpture

Jimmy Boyle - ex-lifer, and once "The Most Violent Man in Scotland" - is a very successful sculptor, and a rich man these days. He mostly lives in Edinburgh, in a magnificent, 12-roomed, seven-balconied house done up in Mediterranean-style terracotta and blues. It also has a lovely, landscaped garden, complete with ponds, a verdigris fish fountain thingy, pebbly bits with palm trees sticking out and a deliciously twee wheelbarrow planted with winter pansies. Is this, I ask, what kept you going through all those years in solitary, Jimmy? The thought: One day, I will get out of here and have an old wheelbarrow filled with winter pansies? I WILL NOT LET THEM BREAK ME! He laughs heartily, throwing his head back. There are quite a few spooky scars on his neck, I note. "Oh aye," he says. "It was the thought of pansies that kept me going. Oh aye. Ha Ha!"

Jimmy Boyle is 55, and quite a compact man with white hair and very blue eyes. He is, today, divinely dressed - a deep blue Donna Karan navy shirt ("she's my favourite designer..."), gold Cartier glasses, little Italian boots of such exquisitely soft leather you can see his toes fluting from within. He has another house in the south of France. He drives a glittering red Rolls Royce and a glossy blue BMW. He and his wife, Sarah, a psychiatrist whom he met and married while still in prison, have two children - Suzi, 14, and Kydd, 11 - who go to private schools and have piano lessons. "I'm very strict about the piano lessons." He likes good food, and is something of a gourmet cook. "The last meal I made? Lemon chicken with green garden peas. That's fresh green garden peas." He tried to do lobster recently, buying a live one from his fishmonger. "But when I put it in the boiling water, it screamed," he recounts with horror, yet no irony. "It then stuck a claw out. It was awful." He keeps an excellent wine cellar. "I like Burgundy and Bordeaux. Plus champagne, of course."

In the end, we go for an impromptu lunch at a Spanish restaurant in town, where he orders the most expensive wine on the wine list. He then tries to pay with one of his glinting credit cards, but I suddenly decide I won't have it. I can be quite showy, too, in my own little way. We fight over the bill.

"Mine." "No, Mine." "No, Mine." "Listen," I am finally forced to say, "I have something of a violent past myself. I used to make my little sister play Who Can Keep Their Hand In Really Hot Water The Longest, you know. And while I never knew the Krays as such, I once sat opposite the Krankies on a train to Manchester." This puts the wind up him and he surrenders. "OK, OK, you pay," he cries. It wasn't very pleasant having to sit opposite the Krankies all the way to Manchester. But in terms of later using the experience as a tool of intimidation, I have always found it works quite magnificently.

Anyway, the point I'm trying to make here is that Jimmy now leads a very good life - and visibly so. He enjoys it, I'm sure. Who wouldn't? But I think in Jimmy's case it's not just about enjoyment. It is also, I think, an act of revenge, and possibly quite a brilliant one, if not the ultimate one. For most of his life, he has seen things in terms of Them and Us. Us was his ma and his brothers and his mates from the Gorbals, with whom he progressed from vandalism and thieving to running money-lending rackets, slicing up late payers and, finally, murder. He was convicted in 1967 for the killing of a rival hoodlum, Babs Mooney, who was sliced open from forehead to abdomen. He still maintains that while, yes, he did slash Babs about a bit, he didn't kill him. It was a mate of his who did. But he couldn't grass him up. His mate was one of Us.



THE DEBORAH ROSS INTERVIEW

Them? Well, first teachers and the police, then prison officers and governors. While serving his life sentence, he got an additional six years for attempting to murder six prison officers in one go, and a further six for attacking another. So he was always fighting, fighting, fighting Them, but never triumphing. Now, though, he has triumphed. His good life. His designer shirts. His villas. That, I imagine, really gets to Them. Any truth in this, Jimmy?

"Oh aye," he says, happily. "It is revenge. It's revenge on people who don't understand that people can change, and change for the better. Because of the way I am now, I am a target. I'm not talking of targets in the criminal sense. I'm a target for the authorities. People in the prison system are much more comfortable living with failure than success. They are quite happy for people to go in and out of the system. I am probably the biggest success the Scottish prisons have ever had, but they won't let me go into one of their prisons. Instead of taking kudos from what I've become, their attitude is that I somehow beat the system."

I know some people have a problem showing the likes of Jimmy Boyle any kind of reverence, but I think this is nonsense, frankly. He is an intelligent man. He has a lot to say about the culture that produces violent criminals, and the system that consistently fails to redeem them. Plus he has a certain integrity. He has set up The Gateway Exchange in Edinburgh, which helps disadvantaged addicts. The proceeds from his bestselling, gripping autobiography, *A Sense of Freedom*, which he wrote in prison in 1977 on an old Olivetti "while still teaching myself to type", also went to various good causes. He does not want, he says, "to prostitute" his experiences. He rarely gives interviews, and is only doing so today because he has written his first novel, and has been persuaded to plug it. The novel, *Hero Of The Underworld*, is about a man released after many years in a criminal mental institution and yet manages to embark on a new kind of life. It is quite compelling - "I've heard it mentioned in the same breath as the Booker," says Jimmy, modestly - and he is a fine writer, I think.

Still, it is as a sculptor that he is mainly known. He has a studio attached to the house, and we wander over. He works in bronze, with a hammer and chisel. His most recent pieces have been inspired by the suffering in Rwanda and Bosnia. Lots of groups of elongated figures, with limbs entangled, and faces frozen in screams. I don't know much about art, being something of a cheerful, Athens poster sort of person, but can tell there is something emotionally powerful going on here. He sells to private collectors and galleries all over the world, but never in Scotland, because he can't be sure that whoever is buying it is doing so because they like the work, or because of his notoriety. He will not sell to Saatchi. "Because I don't like what he does and can afford not to." He saw the *Sensation* exhibition when it came to Edinburgh and thought it "the biggest pile of rubbish" he'd ever seen.

He discovered sculpture when, in 1973, he was sent to The Special Unit at Barlinnie Prison, an experimental unit that focused more on rehabilitation than confinement, where prisoners were encouraged to express themselves with-



Jimmy Boyle learnt to sculpt in prison. 'It was like a dam bursting in me.' But the authorities refuse to acknowledge him as a model ex-prisoner. 'I am probably the biggest success Scottish prisons have ever had, but their attitude is that I beat the system' Colin McPherson

out violence, and where Jimmy experienced his remarkable redemption. "One day they brought in a woman, an art therapist. A lot of prison staff were against it, saying we'd rape her. But the fact was we were impressed with her. We were combing our hair and saying things like: 'Don't swear, or she'll no come back.' She was quite good-looking as well, and we hadn't seen a woman in years. One day she brought in seven pounds of clay and I just worked on it and did a portrait of one of the guys inside. It was like a dam bursting in me." His sculptures now sell for around £10,000 each. The Special Unit has since closed. "They said it was too expensive to run." He adds that I must visit his place in Cannes: "There's a swimming pool and exotic garden, and I do throw the best parties there."

I ask him what his mum, Bessie, who died while he was still banged up, would have made of his transformation. He says: "I suppose it's the biggest regret of my life, that my mum's not here, and I have to live with the fact that I put her in an early grave. In a sense, the person I am now is the one she made me. The one thing she gave me was unequivocal love. And I don't mean that in a wishy-washy sense. She made great sacrifices for me and my brothers. Yet she didn't live to see the person she made. The last time I saw her, I was awaiting a High Court trial for attempted murder of a prison officer. I was taken to the visiting room by eight prison officers. My mum had cancer at this time, and she came in with my cousin Freddie, who'd been knocked down by a bus and crippled. When they came in, the vision of the two of them got to me, but I couldn't show any emotion. You can't in front of prison officers. I could have reached over and cuddled her, but I didn't. I just said: 'Ma, this is too much for you, isn't it?' And for the first time, she said: 'Aye son.' Ten days later she was dead."

There are tears in Jimmy's eyes. He loved his mum, all right. I say OK. I can see you're upset, but you had choices, didn't you? You could have spared her all the pain. You didn't have to do bad things. He says he did. The culture he grew up in dictated it. He never had any choices. He says: "I began my life sentence the day I came out the womb." He says this is not an excuse. It's reality. His dad had been a safe-blower who was killed in a mob fight when Jimmy was five. He has few memories of him. "And the more I've found out

about him, the more I don't like him. I was told one story that was too much for me. My auntie told me she remembers my mum ironing a shirt for him, because he was going out, and then after he left she looked out the window, and saw him going off arm-in-arm with his girlfriend. My mum shouted at her: 'My dad then came up and said to my mum: 'Don't you ever fucking embarrass me again like that.' That was the brutal world they lived in."

His mum brought up the four boys - Jimmy's older brothers, Pat and Tommy, and his younger brother, Harry - in one room and one kitchen in a Gorbals tenement. She did three cleaning jobs to support them, leaving the house at 5am and returning at 9pm. She always, Jimmy remembers, smelled of "detergent" and had "these wrinkled hands from all the washing". Jimmy was largely allowed to run free in a community that did not entirely disapprove of crime or violence. In some ways, these were the only things that could make you somebody. "As kids we'd hang around the chippie, and the chip man would kick our arses for it and tell us to get out of it. Then Big Ned, the hard man of the street, would come along and get a load of fish and chips, and say, 'come in, boys', and get us fish suppers, too, without having to pay for any of it. So we learned who got respect." By the time Jimmy was eight, he'd already perfected a James Cagney kind of walk. It was just a short step from there to breaking into shops, doing in chewing gum machines, then stabbing a boy in the face with a butcher's knife during his first gang fight.

I am quite keen to know what it feels like to knife somebody. How did you feel afterwards, Jimmy? "I just felt relieved it wasn't me who copped it. All my mates were saying: 'Brilliant, you sorted him out.' But then someone else would come up and say that's fucking nothing, you only scratched him. So the stakes intensified the whole time."

Did you ever think you were doing something morally wrong? "You never thought about whether it was the right way to live or the right thing to do. If you've got nothing, then being a great thief or great fighter is something. I remember when I was in solitary in prison, this guy calling out: 'Jimmy, brilliant headline in the Express today. You're Scotland's most violent

Continued on page 8

India for Free!

Fancy a challenge?

- cycle for a week in India in October '99
- 340km off the beaten track, in the blistering sun
- visit a ghost city, meet the colourful people of Rajasthan
- finish at the world famous Taj Mahal
- bike, bed, beer and balti included
- raise money for disabled children in the UK

If you're up for the challenge, call us now as places are limited:

0870 600 9933

or email us with your postal address at: t.henderson@whizzkidz.btinternet.com

Whizz-kidz

THE MOVEMENT FOR NON-MOBILE CHILDREN

Whizz-Kidz is a registered charity number 802872

INSIDE

Letters 2
Leaders and comment 3-5
Obituaries 6-7
Features 8-9

Arts 10
On Air 11
Network 12-13
Listings 15-16

Satellite TV 17
Radio 17
Games 17
Today's TV 18

NETWORK
INCLUDING APPOINTMENTS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

School duties

Sir: I write as the parent of a child who attends the school in St Leonards which was so sadly at the centre of the disappearance of the two 10-year-old girls. First thoughts must be with the families who experienced unimaginable anguish, but the school itself also deserves sympathy and support. Instead, the school appears to be the focus of oblique, but nonetheless harmful and hurtful, suggestions that it acted less than properly in the first instance.

Let me say of this school that all its staff are conscientious and efficient and work at full capacity at all times. Since there was no immediate cause for concern about the two girls' absence on the first day, and since not all parents find time to ring school on the first day of absence, why and how should staff have assessed this particular absence as sinister?

In general, if the Government's advice is that schools should notify parents of all unexplained absences on the first day, please can the Government clarify how and with what resources this should be effected? In some schools, parent volunteers do this, but this is by definition inconsistent from school to school; in other schools someone is employed part-time specifically for this purpose, but this has implications for schools' budgets and is unlikely to be more than a temporary measure.

It seems to me that the response to this situation yet again demonstrates that schools, teachers and even LEAs are now publicly and almost exclusively defined in the language of failure and are found to be at fault in every instance. Who would willingly risk a lifetime of such treatment and what shall we all do when, as a result, no one wants to be a teacher?

GILLIAN BARGERY
St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex



The Staten Island Ferry No 1: Passengers disembarking from the famous ferry on Staten Island, New York

Edward Webb

Sir: I have read few news comments which are more unjustifiable than those in the wake of the two girls' abduction. The notion that schools should contact parents or guardians on each and every occasion that a child fails to register at morning class is incredible.

The suggested responsibilities of teachers are becoming wider daily. Manifest varieties of incident around the country are stimuli for further demands. A logical reaction to this would be to issue detailed job specifications for teachers, a common enough feature in many jobs and professions, but which, in a similar manner to performance-related pay, would be inappropriate to the role of teacher in our schooling system, which stresses the importance of communal personal and social education, amongst other categories. Under *ofia*, the resulting list would surely justify the claim for significant salary increases.)

The premise that these multifarious activities should stretch even further into the 18 or so non-school hours per day is further evidence of the "control freakery" in present society at large.

DAVID HENDRA
Clevedon, Somerset

Saddam's lie

Sir: I am astonished that you can publish such a letter as the one purporting to come from the Department of Journalism, University of Texas, when the contents appear to be straight out of Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine. Yet again we see the lie repeated, namely that it is the Western trade embargo creating the shortage of medicines etc in Iraq whereas anybody with half a brain, or rather without a tonne of anti-American prejudice, knows full well that the only obstacle to a free flow of medical supplies is Saddam Hussein who prefers to let his people die in order to put pressure on the world for the embargo to be lifted. You can be sure that none of Saddam Hussein's coterie suffers from lack of medical supplies or indeed from any other luxury they want, paid

for from the illicit funds that Iraq still earns and mainly uses for the armed forces.

I would join in applauding those voluntary groups supplying medicines and toys to "dying children" in Iraq, though presumably they are in breach of US law and are bound to face action and would have known that before embarking on their mission. What is unforgivable is the way that the signatories to this letter are perverting using this situation to call for an end to sanctions.

Iraq can end sanctions tomorrow by simply honouring its agreements signed at the end of the Gulf War. It is as simple as that.

ADRIAN SIMMONDS
Enfield, Middlesex

A major beef

Sir: Professor Liam Donaldson, as the new Chief Medical Officer, wants to establish his credentials with consumers. So, acknowledging that the chances of getting nCoV from eating beef on the bone are "near zero", he insists that the ban must stay (report, 22 January). The Government doesn't like smoking but accepts that people should be allowed to exercise the choice. They do that, knowing that anyone smoking more than 10 a day over the age of 30 will have a 95-per-cent chance of damaging his health and a much increased risk of an unpleasant, premature death, preceded by some expensive illness for which the NHS will pick up a large proportion of the bill.

Is there not a point at which consumers, as individuals in a free society, should make their own decisions? Of course there should be, and there is. But it is decidedly odd, given the relative risks, that in the case of smoking the Government says yes, but in the case of beef on the bone it says no.

Yes, I am a beef farmer and yes, I found *The Independent's* front-page story profoundly depressing. And yes, I could be said to be biased.

But I also have a track record of being concerned for the consumer.

When President of the National Farmers' Union in 1990, I infuriated the then Minister of Agriculture, John Gummer, by calling for an independent Food Standards Agency.

The sooner we get the Food Standards Agency, the better I shall be pleased. One of the remits in the FSA's statute should be that it makes its judgements having considered the proportionality of the issues involved. In the case of beef on the bone there are many, many consumers who think that Professor Donaldson's sense of proportionality is decidedly awry.

Sir SIMON GOURLAY
Knighton, Powys

Tax on art

Sir: It is a pleasure to read your endorsement of the modern art trade, marred only by your opposition to artists' resale royalties ("Monet, money and the envy of our neighbours").

Sir: So Alex Gray thinks the Bramleys have set their children a poor example (letter, 21 January). Presumably, having given the matter due consideration, he has decided that if the local social services department decided that he was an inadequate parent he would submit to the "unpleasant obligation" of surrendering his children to them.

I can only hope that his unfortunate children (if any) will not have learnt that love, family and the demands of conscience must take second place to a blind obedience to the decisions of those in authority.

ALAN COOK
Bishopstone, Wiltshire

Sir: Len Salem (letter, 20 January) need not take offence at the use of "dumb" in the sense of stupid. Far from being "an insult to those deprived of speech", dumb

20 January). The east London galleries and many others at the London Contemporary Art Fair courageously promote artists whose reputation is still to be made. None of these galleries faces resale royalties.

What many of these galleries face is a significant tax which was not set by Brussels but by successive British governments. I refer to the full rate of VAT on the import of art works created after 1973, and the requirement to charge full VAT on the work of living British artists.

The previous Conservative government and the current Labour one are united in their opposition to Brussels raising our import tax on pre-1973 art works from 2.5 per cent to 5 per cent. Fine. But both parties are also united in keeping the punitive rate of 17.5 per cent on the work of living artists.

RENE GIMPEL
London E14

IN BRIEF

meaning stupid was taken into (American) English from the Yiddish/German word *dumm*, which has only this meaning.

The word for dumb (mute) in these two languages is *sichstumm*, which has also found its way into English, albeit in a slightly amended sense.

CHARLES KENNAUGH
Greasby, Merseyside

Sir: Your correspondent J B Gresham (letter, 22 January) asks why "perjury" by President Clinton is regarded as a peccadillo by some, but not the perjury by Jonathan Aitken. The answer is obvious, and accounts for the inverted commas in my first use of the word above.

Many in this country are baffled as to how Clinton's evasive statements came to be

Afghan outrage

Sir: I was relieved to see that, although much of the media has tired of covering Afghanistan, at least one newspaper is still concerned with the outrages implicitly committed by Western governments, as well as the Taliban, against the Afghan people ("How the children of Kabul are sacrificed to sexual politics of the West", 16 January).

That the Foreign Minister's extra-marital affairs receive more coverage than foreign affairs is a travesty in itself. That the Government can invoke cultural assumptions (which it neglects to live up to itself) ahead of the lives of millions of women, men and children is tragic.

Countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan or Sierra Leone are not "blessed" with democratic facilities, so why must also Western governments insist on condemning these people further

by denying them the more basic rights of food, water and medicine?

Humanitarian aid is about helping people. It is, or at least should be, above politics and the self-interest of nations.

How our government has failed to see that there are better ways of helping re-establish women's rights in Afghanistan than starving them and letting their children die of curable diseases remains beyond me.

A foreign policy which only addresses domestic interests is just that: domestic. It is certainly not the "ethical foreign policy" we were promised.

KATE SEYMOUR MEAD
Manchester

Sir: The claims in your article "How the children of Kabul are sacrificed to sexual politics of the West" (16 January) that the Department for International Development has stopped funding "charities" in Afghanistan, and threatened to withdraw funding from any which return there, are misleading.

DFID continues to support the provision of humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan, where it can be delivered effectively and in a principled manner. We have recently completed a review of our assistance programme for Afghanistan, and are offering further support to a number of non-governmental agencies operating in the country.

We have, however, made clear that we will not at present support agencies which send expatriate personnel back into Afghanistan. This is because of serious threats to the safety of such personnel. The projects we are supporting are run by national staff. There are particular difficulties for agencies in Kabul, caused by the constraints which the Taliban have imposed. But we remain prepared to support programmes in Kabul if these constraints can be overcome.

Dr MUKESH KAPILA
Senior Humanitarian Adviser
Department for International Development
London SW1

Ashdown's legacy

Sir: So Paddy Ashdown has announced his retirement and, emerging from the cursory eulogies, comes a motley crew of prospective new leaders eager to head the largest group of Liberal Democrats in the postwar era. The "rescue act" Mr Ashdown performed on an ailing and divided party has been lauded as a relatively successful period in the party's history. But, given what he was left with, there was plenty of room for improvement, begging the question: was his greatest gift that of timing?

The challenge Mr Ashdown has left his successor seems poisoned. Not only is the deal he struck with Mr Blair an embarrassing abandonment of principle in the pursuit of power, but more importantly it condemns his party to almost inevitable losses in the next election. The next incumbent will face the insurmountable task of defending electoral gains attained through tactical voting against a shambles of a Tory party.

No matter what your opinion of Mr Hague, the Tory party is certain to win at least some seats at the next election, if only because it is the Tories now for whom the only way is up. So assuming a amount of losses against the Tories, the Liberals, in order to gain seats, will have to gamble and fight Labour as well as the Tories. In doing so they would not only risk even heavier losses, but also jeopardise any opportunity to influence electoral reform legislation in the next parliament, should Labour, as seems likely, win.

This dilemma looms darkly on the Liberal Democrat horizon, and, barring a shift in voting behaviour, would prove a difficult obstacle for any leader to survive. It should come as no surprise, then, that Mr Ashdown should choose now to spend some more time with his family.

ANTHONY WRIGHT
Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire

Sir: Cannot those in both Labour and the Liberal Democrats who now wish to end closer ties between their two parties following Paddy's resignation see that they are giving the Conservative Party the gift they most wish for?

The 20th century was dominated by the Conservative Party because of divisions on the social democratic left: so will the 21st century unless co-operation continues.

V CREWS
Beckenham, Kent

Red Cross welcome

Sir: We warmly welcome the Prime Minister's announcement of funding of \$48m for a Millennium Volunteers initiative (report, 22 January).

If it were not for more than 80,000 volunteers, the British Red Cross simply could not deliver the range of services we offer to help vulnerable people in communities all over the country. It is the commitment and enthusiasm of these volunteers which enable us to respond, throughout the year, to emergencies of all kinds - whether a major accident or disaster, a heart attack at a public event or the needs of someone forced to return to an empty home after being discharged from hospital.

The dedication of our volunteers is eloquent proof that there are those in society for whom humanity does mean more than money.

SAM YOUNGER
Director General
British Red Cross Society
London SW1

God's wrath

Sir: Could it be possible that Patrick Moore and other like-minded astronomers are exhibiting "size-ist" attitudes to Pluto (The truth about... 22 January)?

Pluto should not be denied its planetary rights on the basis of its compact proportions. One can only hope that the Roman god of the underworld does not take umbrage at this sudden demotion on the part of his namesake.

FELICITY COBBING
London NW1

The secret of Swindon's failure to stage the Olympics

I WAS up in London the other day, arranging for the delivery of my haggis for Burns Night, when who should I bump into but my old friend Adrian Wardour-Street, the doyen of public relations, the man who makes Max Clifford look like Antonio de Sancha...

"Adrian!" I cried. "How's life on the hard shoulder?" (This is one of Adrian's little fancies. He thinks life in the fast lane is not dangerous enough. He sees himself as driving at top speed along the hard shoulder, overtaking the rest of the world on the inside.)

"Tip top, old boy," said Adrian, dragging me into the nearest coffee establishment and ordering a CLG.

"What's a CLG?" I asked. He looked at me pityingly, the look of the city mouse regarding the country mouse.

"Caffe Latte Grappa, old boy," he said. "It's the latest fix. Latte with a shot of grappa."

It sounded disgusting. I ordered a coffee in English and asked the old fox what he was up to.

"It's a bit hush-hush," he said, "but I'm busy fixing the next leader of the Liberal Democrats."

"I thought they already had a leader," I said. "Old Paddy Ashdown."

"No, he's resigned," said Adrian. "At least he should be resigning about now."

At that moment the *Evening Standard* seller in the street outside cried: "Eeening Staaaard! Ashdown quits! Latest boring news!"

"Very impressive," I said. "And who's going to be the next leader?"

"Do you really want to know?" "No."

"That's my trouble," said Adrian. "Nobody wants to know. It makes it harder to handle PR for a leadership bid when only the candidates care who wins. Still, there are ways and means."

"Like what?"

"Oh, I'll have it put about that Blair favours one of the candidates. Charles Kennedy, probably. That'll put the cat among the pigeons. It's not all crowded off the front page by the Olympic news."

"You mean all this stuff about the IOC taking bribes?" I said.

"It certainly does seem that the top officials of the sacrosanct Olympic movement have been taking large helpings of the illegal substance known as money in order to enhance their performance," said Adrian drily. "Not that it came as much of a surprise to



MILES KINGTON

'They were desperate not to be nominated, and they asked me to make sure they weren't'

me. I was mixed up in that once."

"How?"

"I handled an Olympic bid once.

Back in the 1980s, when I was first starting out."

"Who were you handling an Olympic bid for?"

"Swindon."

"Swindon? Swindon was trying to get the Olympics?"

Adrian smiled at that annoyingly superior way that people have when they are superior to you.

"Not at all. Swindon was trying not to get the Olympics."

"I don't quite..."

"Well, I was involved with the M4 lobby at the time. This was a group set up by local businesses to try to get people off the M4, so as to keep it clear for themselves. We used to put out false fatality figures, and stories about haunted stretches of the road near Reading, and wild rumours about people who had gone down the M4 to Wales by

mistake and never come back..."

"How horrible," I said, shuddering. "But what has this got to do with Swindon and the Olympics?"

"Well, traffic figures did fall on the M4 and word got around that I was good at this disinformation job, so Swindon came to me with a proposal to work on the Olympic Games. They were desperate not to be nominated as a candidate for the games, and they asked me to make sure they weren't."

"What on earth made them think they might be nominated?"

"Just what I asked them. Turned out that they had had a visit from a member of the IOC who said they were seriously considering Swindon as a venue."

Swindon panicked. Holding the Olympics can bankrupt a place, or at the very least give it a nervous

breakdown. They were desperate. Then the member of the IOC committee made them an offer. If Swindon paid him a large sweetener, he said, he would make sure they weren't selected."

"He wanted them to give him a bribe not to choose Swindon as the Olympic venue?"

"That's it. A large bribe, too. They couldn't afford it. That's why they got me in."

"And what did you do?" I asked. Adrian smiled.

"I advised them to call his bluff. They did. He went off and got the bribe from Reading instead."

He suddenly leant forward and said: "By the way, this is all extremely confidential and sensitive stuff. No mention of it in your column - promise?"

"Promise," I said.

THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435
THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Schools should be interfering more to protect children

THE SAFE return to their parents of Lisa Hoodless and Charlene Lunn is a cause for some relief; too many such stories have ended in tragedy far greater than the captivity these 10-year-old girls had to endure. Now the challenge must be to help make sure that such abductions are more difficult in the future.

The girls' school never informed the parents that their children had not appeared; only when Lisa's mother arrived at the school to pick up her daughter was the alarm raised. This will shock and alarm all those who believed that schools were in loco parentis while children were under their supervision. Schools have a duty of care to the children they educate, and the parents for whom they stand in during the day, meaning that teachers should inform those responsible if children do not turn up for school in the morning.

Of course, that places an opposite duty on parents to inform the school if their children will not be attending, because of illness or family commitments. But empty seats in the classroom without a good reason means something has gone wrong: either illness, or truancy, or worse. Parents should be contacted to make sure that the children are safe.

Schools will point out that they do not have the resources, either in money or staff, to do this: if that is true, the extra money must be provided. The initiatives to be presented today by David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, will contain extra pledges. Parents are to be encouraged to band together to take turns in escorting children to and from school: there is to be more education for children in the dangers they can face, whether from predatory strangers or traffic.

These are all sensible measures. The idea that children cannot walk the streets in relative safety should not be allowed to gain hold in parents' minds - abductions like that of Charlene and Lisa are extremely rare. It is just that, with a little common sense, they could perhaps be made even more rare.

This is not just an issue of child safety. Reducing truancy remains a key Government aim, with more money provided just last week for initiatives to do just that. As Estelle Morris, the Schools Standards Minister, has pointed out, increased vigilance on the part of teachers could pay for itself by effecting a decline in those children lost to education altogether.

We will look to see whether the extra money proves enough. If it does, then schools can fulfil a new and expanded role: protecting children outside the school, as well as inside. British schools have traditionally fought shy of "interfering" once their pupils are off the grounds. Now that can, and must, change.



The damaging effect of ministers' junkets

THE CONTROVERSY over "junkets" - a word, like "sleaze", which seems to have been specifically invented to wound a government - will not go away. The allegation that Geoff Hoon, Minister of State in the Lord Chancellor's Department, took a £7,000 transatlantic round-trip with a civil servant is one more example. This case fits into the picture the Government's detractors draw: of irresponsible ministers, jetting around and wasting taxpayers' money.

We have seen a few stories that reinforce this impression over the last few weeks. Jack Cunningham's much-publicised trips on Concorde being the most famous example. It is no wonder that voters are beginning to feel that New Labour's promise to banish such behaviour from public life is wearing thin. These are not the first exam-

ples of that party's dangerous love affair with the lifestyles of the rich and famous, but they should be the last.

Mr Blair explicitly warned his Ministers when they came to power that they should not covet the trappings of office above their opportunity to reshape Britain. It seems he has been ignored. Now he needs to regain his grip on those who are ignoring his injunction, rather than simply attempt to strangle the story by preventing "leaks" to the press. He himself has behaved with exemplary restraint, refusing to draw all of his salary and insisting that other ministers follow suit.

No one wishes Britain's representatives while abroad to arrive shabby and tired, or to appear showily puritanical in their choice of transport. If ministers are in a hurry, then they should take the fastest route, including Concorde if need be. But voters need to be assured that ministerial discretion is not abused in this matter. New Labour, emerging from its worst period in office, can ill-afford creating the impression of high-living waste.

The whole Government has been done a great deal of harm by ministerial opulence. The Lord Chancellor showed great maladroitness over the expensive refurbishment of his official chambers; Mr Cunningham's own choice of furniture seems rather extravagant for a Cabinet Office Minister. Ministers may regard their plans to pare down on bureaucratic spending by £300m as more important than the "froth" of travel and furniture budgets, but they should remember that appearances can matter just as much as such "real" policies.

New Labour came to power promising a new kind of politics. It was able, with public goodwill, to survive a first wave of scandals. The Bernie Ecclestone affair, and "lobbygate", in which lobbyists were seen to be selling access to ministers, passed without a ripple in the opinion polls. Perhaps some in the Government became less cautious, as their fear of censure declined. If so, they should be chastened. If they are not, the Prime Minister should ensure their compliance with more sober standards of behaviour.

What this Government needs is a whole lot more of Tony's cronies

SINCE THE election, one Tory attack on the government has hit home. Under the two dreaded words "Tony's cronies" and ministers shiver, Tories cheer, and journalists exchange knowing nods. To the left of us, to the right of us and down the middle Tony's mates are meant to be everywhere.

In which case what is Lord Wakeham doing in charge of the Royal Commission on Lords Reform? And while we are about it, how is the presence of David Mellor on the Football Task Force explained? Other beneficiaries of government patronage include Michael Heseltine, Chris Patten and John Gummer. It will not be long before Ken Clarke is offered a tempting role, no doubt related to Europe. None of these people are Tony's mates, although he probably prefers their company to some in his own party.

The soundbite "Tony's cronies" is not merely an exaggeration of the reality, it conveys the precise opposite of what is really happening. At the heart of the Government, there are very few people with substantial influence. Their names are repeated with monotonous frequency, but none of them are cronies. Neither a chancellor nor a press secretary who has served for more than four years fit that description. Outside the inner circle, the stress is on inclusiveness. It was Margaret Thatcher who asked whether a beneficiary of her patronage was "one of us". Blair is just as likely to ask whether he or she was a moderate Tory before offering a job.

The appointment of Lord Wakeham to run the commission on the Lords was a very clever move. Politics is part-

ly a game of chess. Giving Wakeham such a sensitive task was the equivalent of putting Hague in check, with checkmate only a few moves away.

Hague's dilemma was all too clearly illustrated last Wednesday when, after all the sound and fury he had generated over Lords reform, he did not question Blair on the issue at Prime Minister's Question Time. On BBC's *Breakfast with Frost* programme yesterday he was sheepish on the subject, revealing that Lord Wakeham had apologised for not letting him know in advance of his appointment. Apparently the process had happened so quickly Wakeham had no time to inform his leader. Make of that excuse what you will.

Wakeham's appointment - obscured initially by the Ashdown retirement, which was announced an hour later - is bizarre. The Tories are in opposition for the first time in 18 years, but one of them is now in charge of the next stage of Lords reform. When I raised this with a couple of Blairite peers over the weekend they insisted this was not a problem. Gerald Kaufman was also on the commission, they pointed out.

"Gerald's a good fixer", as one of them put it. He certainly is, as anyone who watched him reshape Labour's unilateralist defence policy in opposition would testify. But what happens if Wakeham, not known as one of life's radicals, flexes his conservative muscles, as he is perfectly entitled to do? For the Government he is a convenient pawn in a game of chess, but he might seize his opportunity and deliver proposals that please his own party



STEVE RICHARDS
Labour's generosity to senior Tories exposes a lack of confidence in the Government

more than the one which is meant to be in power.

There is a tendency with this government to make a great song and dance over symbolic appointments and then react with some dismay when the person appointed treats the actual task with some seriousness. Ask Frank Field, whose appointment as Social Security minister was listed by the Government as one of its outstanding achievements in its first hundred days celebration. When Field actually attempted to implement the ideas his appointment was meant to symbolise, he was sacked. Lord Jenkins' appointment to chair a commission on electoral reform was announced to a similar fanfare of trumpets. The problems began when he had the cheek to actually produce some proposals. They are gathering

dust, and will be submerged by many more layers of dust before they are put to the voters in a referendum.

But it is the appointment of senior Tories to important posts which has been an especially distinctive characteristic of the Government. "Big tent government", as Americans call it, has obvious advantages. Hague is styled on several fronts. Seemingly wherever he turns to attack, a Tory lurks in the bushes. What about the Millennium Dome? Speak to Michael Heseltine about that. Reservations about policing in Northern Ireland? Chris Patten is the man you should address. As for that ill-thought-out Lords Reform? Lord Wakeham is in charge of that.

Rightly Tony Blair is keen, too, to encourage gently the split between the moderate Tories and the Eurosceptic right-wingers currently in charge of their party. I can appreciate the tactics. It is like watching a top premier side outmanoeuvre opposition from a lower division. I understand the bold bigger picture, also, in which some of the tribalism in politics is broken down to the long-term disadvantage of the right-wing Tory party.

But the generosity to senior Tories exposes also a lack of confidence in the Government. Conservative governments never reciprocate, while the Blair Government is accelerating a trend which other Labour administrations began. Harold Wilson appointed the Conservative Lord Hill to become chairman of the BBC and offered several of his business associates, not necessarily Labour supporters, important posts. What a contrast to the Thatcherite approach

where local government was dismantled to be replaced by quangos often chaired by "one of us" and where the BBC would never in a thousand years have been placed under the control of a Labour supporter.

"We are still having to prove we are up to the job" is how one senior cabinet minister put it to me. He was referring to the need to convince officials in Whitehall, as well as the electorate, that after virtually no experience of government the ministers could administer competently.

Perhaps that explains why a government with the biggest majority since the war is so bothered by the Tories that it spends much time outmanoeuvring them, partly by plucking off its elder statesmen. Labour has been in opposition for so long that it still cannot fully believe it has finally made it into government. It looks to those natural men of government, Heseltine, Wakeham, Patten and co, to give it some weight.

When the Tories placed their friends in positions of power, the response in the media was "Good old Maggie, she is a strong leader who knows where she is going." There was no jibe about "Maggie's mates" to compete with "Tony's cronies". In spite of the near fatal collapse of the Tories and Labour's landslide win, it is the beleaguered opposition which is still seen as the natural party of government. We need more of Tony's cronies in positions of power if that perception is to change.

Steve Richards is Political Editor of the *New Statesman*.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Are you suggesting that I should swim back?"
Geoff Hoon,
Minister in the Lord Chancellor's office,
defending his Concorde flight to America

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Everything you can imagine is real."
Pablo Picasso,
Spanish artist

Join the AA now and a partner joins free

You don't have to be married, in a relationship, or related to benefit from AA joint membership. You just have to share the same home address. Normally, joint membership is an option costing up to £26. Now, with this offer it comes completely free. For a limited period only, two people can join and benefit from a year's AA breakdown assistance for the price of one.

And remember, with AA personal membership, you and your joint member are covered even when travelling in someone else's car.

- We have the world's largest patrol force, and fix more breakdowns at the roadside than any other motoring organisation.
- We are more likely to get you back on the road quicker than anyone else, saving you time and money.

JOIN FROM £41

JOIN NOW CALL FREE

0800 444 999

To our members we're not just a breakdown service, we're the 4th Emergency Service.



PLEASE QUOTE OFFER CODE 6003 LINES OPEN 24 HRS OR JOIN ONLINE AT www.theaa.co.uk

THE ENTIRE system of selecting Olympic cities should be rigorously reformed. Finally, the preening, posturing president must go. He will not depart without a struggle; indeed, he will have to prise his fingers from the door handle of the Chateau de Vidy in Lausanne. But if the movement is ever to reclaim its dignity and integrity, Juan Antonio Samaranch must depart before the week is done. (Patrick Collins) *Sunday Mail*

THE REVELATIONS of widespread corruption over the selection of Salt Lake City for the next winter games have not only brought disgrace upon individuals. They have tainted the entire Olympic committee. Mr Samaranch cannot be excused. The network of bribery exposed by the Dick Pound report stretches far beyond Salt Lake City - to Sydney, Malaysia, and Japan. The common factor in it all, as International Olympic Committee President, has

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
The Sunday papers comment on corruption in the International Olympic Committee

been Mr Samaranch. Accordingly, his immediate removal from office must be the first move to the complete reform of the IOC. *News of the World*

SAMARANCH SHOULD have been collecting his pension for a long time. But four years ago he engineered a vote of the IOC that raised the retirement age from 75 to 80. At the time, he

thought it would ensure he would remain Lord of the Rings into the next millennium. As the current scandal continues to unfold, his grip on power is loosened a little each day. How he must now wish he had stood down gracefully when he had the chance. *Duncan Mackay* *The Observer*

MR SAMARANCH'S lifestyle makes "Junket Jack" Cunningham look like an amateur. In

Ngano, Samaranch was put up in a lavish hotel suite at a cost of £50,000. In Seoul, he stayed in the Shilla Hotel's presidential suite at £2,400 a night. When lowlier IOC members see the perks enjoyed by their president, they naturally want a slice of the action. Mr Samaranch heads a corrupt organisation and has lived high on the hog for too long. To restore some honour to the Olympic ideal, he should resign today. *Sunday Times*

The Republicans have already lost

WILL GEORGE
Benson become
sick of hearing
his tribute to
Princess
Diana and
Dodi
Fayed, as
Elton
John
admits
that he
tired of
hearing
his
tribute
record to Diana,
*Goodbye English
Rose*? This week
Benson's tribute
CD and video. *My*

Most Americans find themselves somewhere in between the two great world views, and are not ready to be dragged into a war. To the astonishment of the pollsters and politicians, they express views of some complexity instead of stark ideological polarisation, as they might have done 20 years ago. And so they have turned off, which is what, in a few weeks, we shall all be able to do - with some relief, but a little nostalgia.

To be a "senator" would be to be something — as it is to be a senior officer. By contrast, lords and ladies would at last become anachronisms and the continued insistence on the use of their titles would come to be seen as a bit pompous, or somewhat fuddy-duddy. And at a party, I could look forward to being introduced to Senator and Mrs X and being suit-

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Post Code _____

Send me THE INDEPENDENT RAPI-TAW
OFFER, 59 Queens Road, Southeast on Sat.
EVEN \$51 IN!

☐ Please fill this box by 6 p.m. 20 May 1980 to receive
future copies direct independent Newspapers
(UK) Ltd no corporate approval or
Independent Newspapers plc v. L & L. ENGLAND

In short, the New Labour solution is no solution at all, it merely sugars the pill of the cultural disruptions of the global market.

And it is certainly reductive and opposed to the idea of freedom. For it treats people as marketing statistics and it accepts the persuasive power of the market. If we accept this idea, then we reduce ourselves to our buying decisions. The next campaign for Nike or Coca-Cola will replace the Party Political Broadcast as the true

Our poem
Poems 194
year 19

Children of the revolution



NATASHA WALTER

It's odd when the way to acceptance among young revolutionaries is by talking about your father

"WHAT DO you want to be when you grow up?" says one little girl to another. "I want to be normal," says the other.

The little girls are the heroines of *Hideous Kinky*, the tale by Esther Freud that's based on her own childhood experiences of wandering around Morocco with her hippie mother. The book has just been turned into a film, and the time is right. The children of rebellious, Sixties parents are grown up now; they might have children of their own, and they're thinking again about their parents' legacy.

Despite that exchange about being normal, which appears in the film and sounds like an edgy criticism of the mother's lifestyle, one of the best things about *Hideous Kinky*, the novel, is that Esther Freud never judges the mother. She is a glorious, larger than life figure; and, with the benefit of adult understanding, Esther Freud goes back and ferrets out the riches of living with a parent who wanted to live well and honestly and courageously – even if not always conventionally. At a time when parents are under more scrutiny than ever before, it's good to remember that it's certainly not always the most conventional parents who do the best by their children.

But it's a complicated business, growing up with parents who are more rebellious than you are. Many people of my generation grew up wondering if we could ever wholly measure up to our parents' sense of adventure and possibility.

The usual thrust of picaresque biography and fiction is the path of the child brought up in a stifling, conventional household finding a way out into the larger world, a world full of adventure and life. But if your parents were hippies, or anarchists, or peace protesters, that movement can never be clear-cut. You can watch *Rebel Without a Cause* or you can read *The Clergyman's Daughter*, but you know that those will never be your stories.

Children of rebellious parents can, of course, rebel the other way, and try to shock their parents by wearing a suit, voting Tory or going out with a policeman. That's not surprising. Children don't want to feel they're just clones of their par-



Kate Winslet in 'Hideous Kinky', the film adaptation of Esther Freud's novel, based on her childhood wanderings with her mother on the hippy trail

ents, especially when they're teenagers. For instance, if your parents have freely admitted to taking drugs or used them in front of you, you don't feel so curious and excited about drugs yourself. "It's so boring, it's what your parents do," said one friend of mine who resolutely refused to smoke cannabis, even when offered it by his mother.

Others, used to their parents wandering around barefoot and scruffy, suddenly become very conventional dressers – though how much of that is rebellion, and how much is fashion, is hard to say. I remember when a woman of about my own age, the editor of a national newspaper supplement, was talking to me about about going barefoot. "My mother used to go barefoot all the time," she said to me. "So did mine," I said. And then we both looked at each other, in our conventional dresses and shoes and tights, and started laughing. "We look like this because of our mothers," she said.

The tension between Sixties

parents and their children is also, momentarily, about politics. Growing up with parents who took their children on Aldermaston marches before they could walk, as mine did, you're never going to feel as though you discovered left politics for yourself. I remember going to meetings of that crazy anarchist group, Class War, for a few weeks one summer. They looked at me rather askance, as well they might, until I told them who my father was. "Nick Walter's all right," they allowed. It's rather odd when the only way you can gain acceptance in a group of young revolutionaries is by talking about your father. That put me off student politics and protests for a bit, just as the fact that *Spare Rib* was a magazine my mother read made me turn away from conscious feminism for a time in my teens.

But those sorts of reactions are usually short-lived. It's just too much of a truism to say that the natural movement of the child of rebellious parents is to become besotted and conservative. Michael

Portillo seemed to embody that truism in his recent television programme, where the Tory chauvinist returned to the land of his Communist, idealistic fathers. The French and Saunders sketch that became the seed for *Absolutely Fabulous* simply poked fun at the tensions between Edina, the aging hippie, and her tight-lipped, censorious daughter, Saffy.

In *Big Women*, her novel and television script about British feminism, Fay Weldon subscribes to that caricature by making the daughter of the most idealistic feminist a hard-faced businesswoman in spindly heels and black suits – funny enough, also called Saffron – who takes over a feminist publishing house and sells it out to the highest bidder. That image of a break, a fissure, between the rebellious parent and the conventional child is the cliché of the age.

But it is only a cliché. Bella and Esther Freud did not, in the end, become "normal", whatever that means – they didn't end up working

nine to five for a jowly boss or believing in what the *Daily Mail* says – but followed their own ideas in design and writing in their own individual ways. And, in the end, children often return to the politics of their parents, with a renewed interest in making it work for a different environment and generation.

Rather than wholesale backlash, I think children of rebellious parents can sometimes grow up with a certain sense of inadequacy. They hear a lot about the parties and protests of yesteryear, and for a time it can feel difficult for them to own their own youth and their own politics. And that sense of inadequacy is hardly surprising.

After all, my parents' generation, throughout Europe and the United States, changed the world. Perhaps they didn't change it in the ways they wanted to – they didn't ban the bomb, which was my own parents' overriding concern. They didn't establish an anarchist Utopia, which was something my father was pretty keen on; or see women and

men becoming equal in every way, which my mother would have liked. But their generation did change the world; they made it much more irreverent, less respectful of authority; they created a society that was more tolerant of drugs and sexual freedom, and eager for race and sex equality. They created a revolution in everyday life.

But once they get over that feeling of inadequacy, the children of rebellious parents can feel a sense of optimism. They don't have to rebel in the same ways, partly because some battles have now been won. And the fact that some battles are won makes them realise that nothing stands still, and that they can build on the changes that the previous generation wrought.

The movement of generations may be complicated by each individual story, but I think a sense of continuity and development is surely both more useful and more accurate than the cliché of sulky Saffron, pouring scorn on her parents' ideals.

RIGHT OF REPLY

ALEXANDER GARDINER



The producer of 'Jonathan Dimbleby' puts the case for political interviews on Sunday television

DAVID AARONOVITCH'S article on the death of the political interview smacks of surrender. Of course "press release" television, such as Sir David Frost's breakfast programme, is highly successful at getting politicians on for a cosy chat. Their purpose is to get the headline, be clipped on the day's news and offer an alternative avenue for the ministerial announcement. But to suggest that the rest of us pack our bags is a betrayal of the viewer and of the political process.

Political television has grown up from the days when David Aaronovitch was a "cub researcher" on the groundbreaking *Weekend World*. There is still soundbite television and chin-wags on the Sunday morning sofa, but also the more in-depth forensic interviews, done so successfully by Jonathan Dimbleby.

Each weekend, television's most incisive interviewer grills a politician for 20 minutes on the big issues before turning them over for quizzing by an audience of 100 voters. This makes for intellectually engaging viewing, relevant to the lives of the audience rather than gossipers in the inner loop of Westminster.

Of course, we would love the power to subpoena politicians when they are in trouble. We know they can always opt for the easier get-out, but the public are wise to this. Jonathan Dimbleby's interview with Conservative Trade Secretary Ian Lang on the publication of the Scott Report was one of the toughest I have seen – yet the minister earned credit with the audience for engaging with difficult questions, rather than ducking them.

There is hardly a front rank politician who hasn't been on Jonathan Dimbleby – and returned for another go. It may be more of a challenge, but most have the confidence to face such a cross-examination.

Unremembered acts of kindness

JONATHAN SWIFT once remarked that Ireland has enough religion to make its citizens hate, but not enough to make them love one another. Others have put it differently. "Out of Ireland I come," Great hatred, little room/ Maimed me from the start/ I carry from my mother's womb/ A fanatic's heart," wrote Yeats. Shaw claimed that if you "put two Irishmen in a room, you would 'always be able to persuade one to roast the other on a spit'".

That a gospel of love can so easily be used to legitimise political injustice or social enmity is the paradox which has torn the tattered canvas of Irish history into shreds. Familiar though we are with the biblical analogy of motives and beams, the practice of Christianity in Northern Ireland – as



MONDAY BOOK
ANTI-CATHOLICISM IN NORTHERN IRELAND 1600-1998: THE MOTE AND THE BEAM
BY JOHN D BREWER WITH GARETH HIGGINS, MACMILLAN PRESS, £16.99

often perceived from mainland Britain – is something we are often tempted to condemn.

John D Brewer's excellent study on the sociological implications of four centuries of anti-Catholicism in Ireland does, however, remind the English of their historical responsibility. Similar sentiments have forged our constitutional settlement (the impossibility of a Catholic monarch, despite the claim of blood), our cultural mythology

(burning the Guy on 5 November), and our national identity. Indeed, at the close of the 19th century, Britain proudly stood for three things: Protestantism, free trade and Empire. And God – as the old joke goes – was an Englishman. Surely acknowledgement of our own impaired vision is necessary before attempting to correct that of others.

Professor Brewer realises this, in the spirit of the mote and the beam. It is as a (Protestant) "Christian sociologist" that he writes. Not denying the existence of anti-Protestantism, Brewer suggests persuasively that it has never "permeated the social and cultural structures of Northern Ireland so systematically".

His purpose is to challenge a community's perception of itself, and thereby of their neighbours, not simply to repeat the familiar two-sided tragedy. As such, it is a partisan book – necessarily so, as it confronts ideological preconceptions on their own terms. Yet the work is infused throughout by a reticence to judge, and a firm view on the past as a prologue to future possibility rather than a window on suffered wrong.

In the nervous climate of Northern Ireland's new start in 1999, such research is refreshing. Her prophets have usually been the Paisleys, unable to see the future but "through the prism of the past" and little more than the second-hand salesmen of historical myth.

Brewer knows the same history, but reads it with an understanding that the perpetuation of "socio-ethnic trib-

alism" offers no future. He glances back the better to look forward.

The result is a glimpse at "unremembered" segments of Ulster history, in which are found alternative voices to those of violence or prejudice. Those of the leaders of the Belfast dock strike in 1907, for example, in which dockers found common cause "not as Catholics or Protestants, as Nationalists or Unionists, but as Belfast men and workers".

My Ulster grandfather, the staunchly Protestant auctioneer of the little town of Rathfriland in Co Down, gave shelter to Catholics in the bloody "troubles" of 1918-20 on the basis of similar sentiments. Later they underpinned the determination of Terence O'Neill, a family friend and former Unionist Prime Minister, to "break the chains of ancient hatreds" and embrace a pluralist politics. In 1965, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church begged "forgiveness for any attitudes and actions towards our Roman Catholic fellow countrymen which have been unworthy of our calling as followers of Jesus Christ".

The picture which emerges is of a different Northern Ireland than that of Drumcree, and a different Christianity than that of Free Presbyterianism. It offers the possibility of a new future led by the likes of Trimble and Hume. What this future does rely on, however, is little less than the transfiguration of identity: the transcendence of social boundaries constructed along the lines of 16th-century theological differences.

Four hundred years of opposition



Leaders like David Trimble are part of a new future for Ulster

have left Unionists feeling under siege from the nationalist community within the Republic to the south, and abandoned by the British they have sought to defend. The twin fears of threat and isolation, legitimised by a divine mandate, prove resilient foes. If ever there was a time for the resurgence of social and political liberalism within Ulster, it is now.

Last year was unlike any other in Northern Ireland's history – Good Friday and Omagh, the best and worst moments of a generation. The loaded gun still remains on the negotiating table and a familiar mistrust hangs over the new Assembly. But as the politicians continue to struggle through the difficult issues of decommissioning, of amnesty, of coalition, old ways of thinking need to be discarded and mindsets decommissioned.

One thing is clear: this ideological ceasefire represents the greatest challenge for Northern Ireland into the millennium, and one in which, perhaps, the pen is more powerful than the gun.

PADDY ASHDOWN

The reviewer is leader of the Liberal Democrats

ROOF PROBLEMS SOLVED

The ROOF-TEK modern underspray method will restore your roof making it stronger than ever before

QUICK & CLEAN Roof-Tek can make good and weatherproof most roofs in as little as 2 days with minimal mess and disruption.

VALUE FOR MONEY Much less expensive than conventional re-roofing, it has the added benefit of insulating your roof thereby saving on fuel bills.

PREVENTS STORM DAMAGE Your slates or tiles are permanently bonded in position and can therefore withstand hurricane force winds.

SUITABLE FOR LISTED BUILDINGS Ideal for valuable old and listed buildings - your home retains its character and your roof is made stronger and better insulated than ever before.

For further information on the Roof-Tek Renovation System - FULLY GUARANTEED FOR 25 YEARS - Call:

01934 642929

Or return the coupon below (no stamp required) to: Roof-Tek, Freepost (BS 6758) Weston-Super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 1FA

FREE QUOTATION NO OBLIGATION

Please send me more information I am interested in restoring my slate/tile roof ☐ , Flat roof ☐ , commercial roof ☐.

Mr/Ms/Ms.

Address

Postcode

Tel: day Tel: eve

IND25/01/99

MONDAY POEM

GREY HEAT
BY MICHAEL HAMBURGER

Grey heat, but a breeze blends
Day lily with evening primrose,
Bronzed orange with purest lemon.

Care lasts longer, and longer
The town's blend of grey,
The rise, the crumbling of brickwork.

Less long the thrust of a spade at the roots,
The blows of great hammers on housefronts,
The grey sea wave that licks the light from your eyes.

Dare look, presume to believe
The blending of day-long petals,
Momentous whim of a breeze.

Our poems this week come from Michael Hamburger's 'Collected Poems 1941-1994', published at £12.95 by Anvil Press, which this year celebrates 30 years of independent poetry publishing

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin

TERRY LEWIN was regarded by many as the best Admiral the Royal Navy has produced since the Second World War. As Chief of the Defence Staff during the Falklands War he was Margaret Thatcher's trusted defence adviser and executive and a remarkably effective link man between the War Cabinet and the Task Force. He was also a keen amateur naval historian and leading authority on Captain Cook.

Throughout his career, Lewin never allowed promotion to change him. A humane and humble man, he always had time for people, no matter what their status.

When the Falklands crisis escalated, Lewin was in New Zealand - 10,000 miles away from his desk in Whitehall. His Flag Lieutenant woke him at 2am on 4 April 1982 with the words: "They've invaded." He did not need to ask who had invaded, or where, and was back in London 28 hours later.

He went from Heathrow to a meeting of the newly formed War Cabinet - Thatcher, William Whitelaw, Francis Pym, John Nott and Cecil Parkinson. The message Lewin delivered to them was grimly resolute: "We must be prepared to take losses. But we are not going to lose. The only thing which will make us lose is if you lose your nerve."

The first ships of the Task Force sailed only five days after the Argentine invasion. It was to carry out an amphibious landing over 6,000 miles away, vastly outnumbered by defending forces and under fierce air attack from shore-based aircraft. British forces were neither prepared nor equipped for the task, having been geared to face a Russian threat close to home. "The truth is the country had no right to expect that we could succeed in this," Lewin was to say later. But they did.

Terence Thornton Lewin was born in 1920 and educated at the Judd School, Tonbridge. He entered the Royal Navy in 1939 and was a cadet on board *Belfast* at the outbreak of hostilities. The cruiser - now a floating museum on the Thames - was soon crippled by one of the first magnetic mines and Lewin joined the battleship *Vulcan*. After the Norwegian campaign *Vulcan* was involved in the action against the French fleet off the coast of North Africa when the Royal Navy opened fire on the warships of her late ally to prevent their falling into Axis hands.

During three years in the Tribal-class destroyer *Ashanti*, Lewin won the DSC and was three times mentioned in despatches. *Ashanti* was involved in the convoys to North Russia, then Operation Pedestal which

saved Malta from surrender, and action in the Arctic and in the English Channel during the liberation of Europe.

His DSC was for "high personal example, leadership and outstanding endurance and fortitude" when *Ashanti's* sister-ship *Somali* was torpedoed by a U-boat on 20 September 1942 during the passage of Convoy QP14 from Archangel to Loch Ewe. *Somali* broke in two in a Force 10 gale and began to sink. Lieutenant Lewin went down on a scrambling net to reach survivors in the water, putting himself in great danger of being washed away. He saved the lives of many men that night but the memory of one who

As Chief of the Defence Staff during the Falklands War, Lewin became, according to one MoD deputy secretary, 'the most powerful man in England'

was lost was to haunt him. He remembered later: "I grabbed their first lieutenant but the ship was rolling, he was very heavy and covered in oil and I lost him."

After the war, Lewin specialised as a gunnery officer and served in the destroyer *Chequers* and as a Planning Officer in the Ministry of Defence before returning to sea as captain of *Corunna* and then commander of the Royal Yacht *Britannia*. He also found time to represent the Navy at rugby - scoring a try from the wing against the RAF in 1948 - and athletics.

As a Commanding Officer, Lewin used Shakespearean references when sending orders to other ships. An order for a vessel to detach herself from a flotilla would be signalled as a "Macbeth Act 2, Scene 4"; a hurried thumb through the *Collected Works* would reveal the command: "Avaunt! and quit my sight." Lewin, it was said, would also telegraph his wife with biblical chapter and verse numbers, leaving her to use the Authorised Version to decode his message.

In 1961 Lewin became Captain F of the Dartmouth Training Squadron in the frigates *Urchin* and *Tenby*; former cadets recall his close personal interest in each of them and his invitations to tremendously enjoyable group breakfasts in the captain's sea cabin.

After eight years in seagoing appointments, Lewin returned to the Ministry of Defence in 1964 as Director, Naval Tactical and Weapons Policy Division. Here he worked to limit the damage inflicted by the 1966 Defence Review.

He then commanded the aircraft carrier *Hermes* before returning to the Ministry of Defence in 1968 as a Rear-Admiral and Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Policy). His final seagoing appointment was as Flag Officer, Second-in-Command, Far East Fleet just before the handover of Britain's Singapore base to the island republic's government.

In 1971 Lewin was promoted Vice-Admiral and became Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff. The inexorable rise continued with promotion to full Admiral in 1973 and appointments as Commander-in-Chief Fleet and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command before becoming First Sea Lord in 1977.

It was not an easy time to lead the Royal Navy. Pay levels were well below civilian rates and falling morale had led to record numbers applying to leave the Service. Lewin told sailors that he considered himself "your shop steward" and won them a 32 per cent pay rise.

As Chief of the Defence Staff during the Falklands War, Lewin became, according to one MoD deputy secretary, "the most powerful man in England". A recent reform had elevated CDS to being a genuine, single defence chief rather than chairman of the Chiefs of Staff. This gave him direct access to Margaret Thatcher as her sole military adviser and he quickly won her confidence. Lewin realised that time was crucial in order to achieve victory. He became the key man in the War Cabinet, urging decisive action and leading the politicians rather than passively carrying out their wishes.

On 2 May 1982 Lewin called aside the War Cabinet at Chequers and requested a change in the rules of engagement such that the cruiser *General Belgrano* could be attacked outside the designated Total Exclusion Zone. Thatcher authorised the change - reputedly in the entrance porch at Chequers. The submarine *Conqueror* sank the *Belgrano*, killing 368 of her sailors. It was the turning-point of the war and of the Thatcher administration.



Lewin in 1982, in front of a painting by John Webber RA, who had been a draughtsman on Captain Cook's third voyage, 1776-80

Throughout the ensuing controversy, Lewin remained adamant that he had made the right decision, saying later: "I regret the heavy loss of life and the world-wide concern it caused but I have no regrets at all about sinking the *Belgrano*."

Even when under intense pressure, Lewin never failed to treat all those with whom he came into contact with the utmost consideration. Early in the Falklands War, two helicopters which had just landed troops on South Georgia were lost during a blizzard. A young radio operator from the destroyer *Antrim* wrote a letter home which included details of the lost aircraft. The sailor's proud mother showed the letter to a local newspaper, thereby inadvertently releasing information which the Government had deemed secret.

The MoD was furious and there was talk of the sailor's being court-martialled. The sailor's father wrote to John Nott, the Defence Secretary, apologising for the actions of his son and his wife and requesting that his son be treated leniently. On seeing a copy of the Secretary of State's andy reply, Lewin took a £10 note out of his pocket and asked his Flag Lieutenant to send the mother some flowers; he wrote an accompanying note which read: "Please do not worry. You acted as any mother would and I fully understand. With best wishes, Terry Lewin."

When he retired as CDS, Lewin was waved off by an unprecedentedly large group of staff officers, a number of them moved to tears. He remained very active in public life - as a cross-bencher in the Lords and, notably, as Chairman of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum - as well as enjoying a particularly happy family life.

TOBY HARNDEN

Terence Thornton Lewin, naval officer; born Dover 19 November 1920; DSC 1942; Commander, HMS Britannia 1957-58; LVO 1958; Captain F. Dartmouth Training Squadron 1961-63; Director, Naval Tactical and Weapons Policy Division, Ministry of Defence 1964-65; (Policy) 1969-69; Flag Officer, Second-in-Command, Far East Fleet 1969-70; Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff 1971-73; C-in-C, Fleet 1973-75; KCB 1973; C-in-C, Naval Home Command 1975-77; Flag ADC to the Queen 1975-77; First and Principal ADC 1977-79; GCB 1976; Chief of the Naval Staff and First Sea Lord 1977-79; Chief of the Defence Staff 1979-82; created 1982 Baron Lewin; KG 1983; President, Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Association 1984-95; Chairman, Trustees, National Maritime Museum 1987-95; married 1944 Jane Branson-Evans (two sons, one daughter); died Woodbridge, Suffolk 23 January 1999.

Susan Strasberg

THE DAUGHTER of Lee Strasberg, proponent of the Method and founder of the famed Actors' Studio, and his wife Paula, who achieved notoriety as Marilyn Monroe's coach, Susan Strasberg was starring on Broadway in *The Diary of Anne Frank* at the age of 17; two years later she had the plum role of an aspiring actress in a screen remake of *Morning Glory*, which in 1933 had won an Oscar for Katharine Hepburn.

It had seemed as if the beautiful, dark-haired actress might have an impact equal to that made by Jean Simmons and Audrey Hepburn as ingénues, but, though she continued acting in films, theatre, and particularly television, Strasberg's career never fulfilled its early promise, and her story is one of the sadder ones of show business, both her personal and professional life suffering what the actress herself later referred to as "vicissitudes in fortune".

Born in New York City in 1938, she attended the High School of Music and Arts, the High School of Performing Arts and the Professional School, and did some modelling before making her stage debut in an off-Broadway play, *Maya*, at the age of 14. "As far as I can see," she later said, "about the only thing I've missed is a college education."

In 1953 she made her television debut in *Catch a Falling Star* on the Goodyear Playhouse, and the following year won praise as Juliet in a live telecast of *Romeo and Juliet*. Also in 1954, she had a regular role in a fondly remembered though short-lived situation comedy series, *The Marriage*, which starred Hume Cronyn as a lawyer and Jessica Tandy as his wife with Strasberg as their 15-year-old daughter - the show has the distinction of being the first network series to be telecast in colour.

Strasberg made her screen debut in Vincente Minnelli's *The Cobweb* (1955), a static and unpopular portrait of life in a psychiatric clinic, though the scene in which Strasberg and John Kerr (also making his screen debut), as two patients suffering from claustrophobia who give each other courage when they go to a cinema together was a highlight. The actress was also effective as

Kim Novak's book-worm younger sister in *Picnic* (1955).

Both films were awaiting release when she was cast as Anne Frank in Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's dramatisation of the young girl's diaries, a role that brought stardom. Brooks Atkinson in *The New York Times* called her "a slender, enchanting young lady with a heart-shaped face, a pair of burning eyes and the soul of an actress". Her parents had stayed away from rehearsals and allowed her to be directed by Garson Kanin, and Lee Strasberg stated:

When we saw Susie in action, we were all amazed at her great sensitivity. I just don't know how she picked it all up. She's never had any formal training.

Within three months her name was in lights above the title, though Noël Coward, after seeing her wistfully appealing performance, wrote in his diary:

She plays it well, very well indeed, but she knows too much. Poor child, in future it is to be hoped that she learns to know less

'She plays it well, very well indeed,' wrote Noël Coward, 'but she knows too much. Poor child, in future it is to be hoped that she learns to know less'

future years it is to be hoped that she learns to know less.

Strasberg herself, though her childhood had been spent surrounded by theatre folk, had been too young to attend her father's classes, then after her success did not find the time. "There are so many things I want to do," she said, "I'm lucky I started young."

During the two-year run of the play, Strasberg formed a close friendship with Marilyn Monroe, who had been studying with Lee Strasberg and who had come heavily under the influence of Paula Strasberg. "Marilyn used to tell me she envied me having a mother and father," said the actress. "She said she missed having a home life and parents who cared." Later Strasberg wrote a book about the

friendship, *Marilyn and Me - sisters, rivals and friends* (1992).

Susan Strasberg's major chance to attain screen stardom came with her casting as Eva Lovelace, the small-town girl who comes to New York determined to fulfil her destiny as a great actress, in *Stage Struck* (1955), based on Zoe Akins's play *Morning Glory*. Sidney Lumet's film successfully captured the atmosphere of the incestuous world of the New York theatre, but Strasberg's mannerisms alienated more viewers than they entranced. (The opposite had been true in 1933, when Hepburn's equally pronounced mannerisms had annoyed a minority but generally bewitched the public, who flocked to the film, which won her her first Academy Award.)

Strasberg was then bitterly disappointed not to be given the role of Anne Frank in George Stevens's film of the play, and she later suggested that it was because Stevens was afraid of Paula Strasberg, who was

Richard Burton fell in love with Susan, or more accurately Susan fell in love with him and he was not about to turn her down. My God, what a mess! I was the unwilling voyeur, or auditor if that's the word, of their intermission couplings. Susan and I had the only ground-floor dressing rooms, and she and Richard would make love in her dressing-room between the matinee and evening performances. Moans of ecstasy reverberated through the walls kept me awake. Even my radio turned up full blast couldn't drown them out. In more than 30 years as an actor I had never seen a theatre used that way. For me, theatres were temples and this one was being sullied. Couldn't they have rented a room in a Broadway hotel?

Strasberg and Burton did take an apartment together in New York, but the short-lived affair ended with the actress heart-broken. She confessed later that she had cared too much for the actor, notorious for romancing his leading ladies. Strasberg retained warm memories of Hayes, though: "I was young," she said. "Miss Hayes really took me under her wing as a woman and actress - and she was fun!" Hayes also had reservations, echoing Coward, of talent blossoming too soon without formal training or the time to accumulate the experience and technique required to sustain a long career.

Strasberg next appeared in *Shadow of a Gunman* (1958) with a group of Actors' Studio players, though she had still not attended the studio herself. "I could stand it, but I don't know if my father could," she said. She was part of the New York City Centre production of Saroyan's *The Time of Your Life* that played at the Brussels World Fair in 1958 before becoming a memorable *Armchair Theatre* presentation on ITV, its cast including Ann Sheridan, Dan Dailey, and Franchot Tone besides Strasberg, and the following year she toured with Tone in *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

In 1961 she was in a British horror film, playing the wheelchair-bound heroine of Seth Holt's *A Taste of Fear*, co-starring with Ann Todd, who later commented: "I thought it was a terrible film. I didn't like my part and I found Susan Strasberg impossible to work with, all that 'Method' stuff." In *The Adventures of a Young Man* (1962), based on the autobiographical short stories of



Strasberg in Roger Corman's *The Trip*, 1967 Koba Collection

Ernest Hemingway, Strasberg was the ill-starred nurse with whom the wounded hero falls in love during the First World War, then she returned to Broadway to play Marguerite Gautier in Franco Zeffirelli's lush production of *The Lady of the Camellias* (1963), but her performance was considered wan compared to the indelible memories of Garbo.

Disappointed in her career, Strasberg began to use a variety of drugs, and in 1965, despite having once said, "I'd rather not marry an actor because there isn't room in the house for two egos", she married the quixotic young actor Christopher Jones, who was taking LSD. The couple had a daughter, Jennifer, who was born with a congenital birth defect which the actress blamed on the drug-taking. Strasberg and

Jones were divorced after just one year of marriage.

She returned to England to appear as Dirk Bogarde's love interest in Ralph Thomas's story of anti-British terrorists in 1964 Cyprus, *The High Bright Sun* (1966), after which her film career became undistinguished, including some youth exploitation movies for American International (*The Trip*, *Psych-Out*) and some films in Italy, where she lived for a while, becoming noted for the poker sessions she held in her large apartment. ("At the beginning, when they thought me a novice, I cleaned out a couple of the boys," she remarked later.)

An independently produced horror film, *Who Fears The Devil?* (1973), has acquired a cult reputation as an off-beat tale of hill-billies

battling the devil, but *The Maristou* (1978), in which Strasberg sprouted a foetus on her neck, wasted her talents along with those of such veterans as Tony Curtis, Ann Sothern and Burgess Meredith. Her most prolific work was on television, with countless guest appearances in shows including *McMillan and Wife*, *Streets of San Francisco*, *The Rockford Files*, *Cagney and Lacey* and *Murder She Wrote*. In 1980 she wrote an autobiography, *Bitter Sweet*, because, she said later, her career was "stalled".

It seemed totally untenable to me, acting for 25 years - I had played Juliet, Cleopatra and Anne Frank - and there I was, sitting in Hollywood just waiting for somebody to want me.

She criticised her father for being preoccupied with his acting classes and her mother for alienating prospective employers with the strong supervisory stance she adopted over her daughter's work. (Knowing that her father had a crush on Jennifer Jones, the 16-year-old Strasberg had aspired to please her father by emulating Jones's dark hair and eyebrows. "When I saw photos of myself," she said later, "I realised with a shock that I resembled a young Jennifer Jones.")

Among Strasberg's last films were *The Delta Force* (1986), in which she was a passenger on a hijacked plane, and *Prime Suspect* (1988) with Frank Stallone.

Back in 1959, when asked about her future, Strasberg had talked excitedly of plans to do *The Wild Duck* with Sir Laurence Olivier. But that was just four years after the first night of *The Diary of Anne Frank* when her triumph had been so emphatic that - Lee, Paula, Susan and Marilyn Monroe having taken their places in Sardi's restaurant after the show, and before the newspapers had appeared - Franchot Tone stood and asked all the patrons to join him in a toast, saying, "Little Susan, you have been launched on a long and glittering career."

TOM VALLANCE

Susan Strasberg, actress; born New York 22 May 1938; married 1965 Christopher Jones (one daughter; marriage dissolved 1966); died New York 21 January 1999.

"FAIR, FAIR but firm," was the one barrister learning of the William Mars-Jones. It is a likely to be echoed by those eared before him and not a dants. Although he may have sternly whilst on the bench many of his generation he man who believed that, de- whelming evidence to the co- authorities were incapable of badly from time to time. Whey they had, he acted according On the bench, he presided

notorious ABC trial in 1978 John Berry, a former corpo Royal Corps of Signals, was fo under the unpopular section Official Secrets Act of pass- mation to the journalists (Dunc bell and John Aubrey. Camy then written in *Time Out* th and American forces regula- tored the airwaves, and ne sites from which monitoring Many were surprised whey porters were given condi- charges and Barry a short sentence by Mars-Jones.

In 1982 he took the unusa banning both Jews and Musl the jury in the case of two Jord dents and an Iraqi businessm attempted assassination of U Ambassador, who had be through the head.

Three years later he st Nezar Hindawi to 45 years ment, the longest single term in Britain after he had been fo of trying to blow up an Israeli by planting a bomb in his preg- and's luggage. The trial be- Jerry one and Gilbert Gray ing for Hindawi, told the jury other nation may take retribu- convicted. Mars-Jones expro- prise that Gray had sugges- armed conflict could break out the verdict. "It is a stagger- should never have been made," telling the jury their decision alter the attitude of foreign p Britain. "Keep your cool," he

In the case of the actor John acquitted of what the prosecu- alleged was a contract killing, it was thought that Mars-J- been sympathetic towards B his summing-up and unhai- it. "Weigh in witnesses pro the prosecution.

On the civil side, in 1924 he Harrow Borough Council to y ages to a schoolgirl who had p- cessive weight after she had leg- jumping a hurdle in a phy- cation class. The girl had put 70lb and Mars-Jones said, "B- titled to compensation for the she became so grossly ove- which certainly made her feel tractive. Her last marriage in

BOB KELLY was one of the known but seminal musica ad- just in passing, influent famous names who built the- tions during the Scaties blue Born in Glasgow in 1930, he w- taught pianist in bar/ho- - a loosely defined area w- blues overlaps with the folkie- ragtime. As a bar/ho- pian found himself with the interv- Ken Colyer's club, the 51 Ch- Charing Cross Road in the m- The normally hypercritical k- er was sufficiently impress- "authenticity" (a much-valu- teristic in those imitative da- Kelly into his "band within a b- Colyer Skiffle Group, also spo-

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

TOBIAS: Estella. A woman of immense character, passed away suddenly after a short illness, on 4 January 1999. Deeply mourned by husband Manny Ricky, Monica and Alison, grandchildren Frances, Emma, Alexander, Mark, Scott and Brian. Now at rest. We will continue to feel that special and enduring love borne from a courageous and spirited woman. Always in our thoughts and in our hearts.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am. F. Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am. Band provided by the Irish Guards.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Oscar Long is 24 and once worked as a keeper at London Zoo. Five years ago he went on the trip of a lifetime to Canada and met the girl he is marrying this year. His mother, Vivian, 49, who runs her own catering business, is putting on a brave face

He found the life he wanted

When I first went out to Canada I was only 18 and I know now I was quite worried about whether or not I could cope. Arriving in the country, I couldn't believe how much space there was. I had gone out there with a friend to try out for an ice hockey team. We travelled all over the northern part of Canada which was amazing. I had never seen anything like it. I have always preferred the outdoor life, so Canada was perfect for me. I'm really into winter sports so I was in my element. And then I met Heidi.

I was actually quite ill with shingles at the time and her parents (Hilde and Steve) took me in and looked after me. They treated me just like I was part of their family. When I recovered I asked if I could stay on and pay rent. It was during this time that I fell in love with Heidi. That coincided with finding work on a dairy farm, and I seemed all set to make a fresh start.

I took Heidi back to meet my parents and they got on really well. Mum seemed to really like her. She treated her just like a daughter. For a while we were going back and forth between Canada and England.

Finally, on one visit, I asked Heidi to marry me and she said yes. We went back to my house and told my Mum and Dad. They seemed gen-

uinely pleased, and I went back to Canada feeling I was a lucky man. We have already planned what we are going to do out there. I have made enquiries about jobs and Heidi is all set to do a catering course. Of course, I will miss my family and friends. But I know if I don't take this opportunity I will spend the rest of my life wondering if it would have worked out. I am under no illusions. It will be difficult to begin with, but I am used to hard work, and Heidi and I are very close and provide strength for one another. Eventually I plan to own a smallholding or a farm and build up a business. I like the idea of the good life and I am still young and enthusiastic enough to get the experience I need. I feel very secure in Canada.

Heidi's parents have been amazingly supportive. I suppose I am like the son they never had. I know Mum will be sad, but she has a very strong philosophy that people should follow their hearts. She knows that this life is going to make me happy, and she also recognises it is a real opportunity for me to be successful.

Vivian
When I waved Oscar off on the plane to Canada the very first time - call it a mother's instinct if you like - I intuitively knew he would not come back for a very long

time. Driving back from the airport I just howled. It was a real primeval cry. I just knew in my heart that Oscar had found the life he wanted. And I was right. He didn't come back for two years. And when he did come back it was with Heidi in tow.

The first time we visited Oscar he was already living with Heidi and her parents, Hilde and Steve. I felt a little bit jealous that he had settled in so easily with a new family. It felt unreal. Watching him chopping logs as if he was their son, both Pete and I felt a terrible pang of sadness. He looked as if he had lived with these people all his life. And the life he was leading was so different to the one he had in London. We are such an urban family. We're Londoners through and through, and it seemed odd seeing how at home Oscar was in his new lifestyle.

I hadn't really figured out that this was how we would feel. Of course, Heidi's parents made us extremely welcome and they obviously adored Oscar, but it was difficult to come to terms with the fact that we had lost him in a totally strange country. When we returned to England I felt very empty and very sad.

When he brought Heidi over to England, again, I knew instinctively that they would marry. I did have a bit of a panic, and thought, "Oh my God I'm going to lose him forever. He'll marry this girl and he'll go and live in Canada and I'll never see him



Vivian thinks the irony is that the family's love for Oscar has made him secure enough to make a new life overseas Neville Elders

again." For a while it felt like a death. I felt I was grieving for the fact that Oscar was going to leave forever.

I have come to terms with it now. If you don't let your kids go they don't come back, spiritually. It's like when a love affair's over - if you really love someone you don't cling on.

I know when we leave after the wedding in August it will hurt, but I also know he is making the right de-

cision and I want him to be happy. Of course there have been tears. There was one time when we were leaving Canada where we all cried. God knows what Heidi thought.

Both Pete and I wanted the reassurance that Oscar would always love us - that he wouldn't forget us. We knew he wouldn't really forget us, but when there is that distance between you, it's important to hear it.

Sometimes I do feel sad that if and when they have children I won't be able to see them very often. It does hurt a bit to know that Hilde and Steve will be involved and we won't be there. But I've got to let that go too. I don't feel jealous because I know Hilde and Steve love him.

I won't hope for him to come back. I know he'll make a go of it. There's nothing over here for young people,

and Oscar knows he has got something to offer Canada. He's got loads of energy, he's strong and healthy and he can make a life out there.

He is such a well-balanced boy. I couldn't ask for more, and maybe that's the irony - he knows we love him and that has made him secure and confident enough to go for a better life.

INTERVIEWS BY LIZ BESTIC

Darling, these clothes are to kill for

The only trouser-legs these ferrets seem interested in are the ones designed to fit their own four paws. Fancy that. By Julia Stuart

"HE KILLS on sight," warns Barbara Bloomer, scooping up her dog and carrying it upstairs out of harm's way. She is not, however, referring to her lhasa apso, but to a foot-and-a-half of wriggling white fur called Merlin, one of five pet ferrets which dart around her two-up, two-down like hairy draft-excluders on amphetamines.

Barbara's home is one of the few places in Britain where it is prudent, rather than risible, to sport bicycle clips indoors. Her ferrets, she insists, are "super-duper" with humans - never bitten anyone - but Merlin will go for a dog's throat as soon as look at one.

Barbara and husband Steve, who share their bed with their "special" ferret, Friday, are by no means alone. The nation's ferret count currently stands at about 1.5 million. Their popularity in the home - many use litter trays and come when called - is such that a line of specially designed clothes for the fashion-conscious ferret is about to go on sale for the first time in Britain.

Gone are the days when fanciers took their ferret out for a walk - or to the pub - just in its collar and lead. Today's fer-

ret can now cruise the high street in a black, mock leather biker's jacket, complete with chain. Or else, for that more sporty weekend look, there's the brown flying jacket with fake fur trim.

Also coming to a pet shop near you is a natty line in headwear including a baseball cap (worn back-to-front of course), and a lace number for the ladies. The outfits, many of which fasten with Velcro - ferrets don't hang around long - will cost between £5 and £7.

Bob Townner, UK importer and distributor of the ferret wear, which is made by New York State-based Marshall Pet Products, is convinced the ferret's days of negative press are over - not helped, it has to be said by the Duchess of York who likened her wobbly but-tocks to "five ferrets jumping around in a bag"; a slur some might say, bordering on the defamatory.

"It's a very loveable animal, and it's something different," says Bob. "It's a talking point, when people come round instead of saying: 'Meet the cat' or 'Meet the dog', they can say: 'Meet the ferret'."

Owner of R&L Pet Products



When it comes to dressing up, ferrets can behave strikingly like petulant supermodels Martin Rickett

in Shoreham-by-sea, West Sussex, Bob spotted the clothing range at an Atlanta trade fair last June. (America boasts a ferret population of more than five million.) He initially thought that the British would

not dress up their ferrets, but changed his mind after speaking to club members.

Maxine Quill, editor of *Go Ferret*, a bi-monthly glossy launched in October (circulation, 3,000) says the current in-



terest in ferrets is "phenomenal". She should know - Maxine has 45 of the creatures in her bedroom. She and her accountant husband, Desmond, have since had to decamp downstairs.

Barbara and Steve have not been able to resist buying ferrets, which cost from a few pounds to around £25, since they were captivated by Merlin four years ago at a country fair. Already the owners of five cats

and two dogs, the couple from Manchester knew nothing about how to keep one. However, they soon had to learn - the Latin name for ferret, *Mustela putorius furo*, does not translate as "thieving, stinking wessel" for nothing.

Now Barbara and Steve can not imagine life without them. They are, the couple say, the best all-round pet: clean, cuddly, intelligent (a scientist is currently carrying out research to see if the ferret is psychic). They happily snooze in their cage during the day and are ready to play when you get back in from work.

So, too, it would seem, are they blessed with dress sense. Taken out of their cages to try on the new range of clothes, Barbara's lot display a petulance strikingly similar to that of supermodels.

Whether it is because she knows the biker-chick look went out with Suzi Quatro, or she doesn't want to be seen dead in faux black leather, Sapphire is walking backwards on the kitchen table trying to wriggle out of one of the coats.

Sapphire also snubs the flying jacket, utterly demodé, trying to hide her embarrassment

behind the fake-fur trimming. "Get your paw in there, chuck," Barbara says to Merlin, who, just like a difficult teenager is reluctant to wear a jumper that his "mum" has chosen for him.

Meanwhile Sapphire, more happy sporting a cowboy hat and bandanna, falls asleep in the arms of Steve, a 42-year-old technical assistant.

What ferrets could really do with, however, is a luminous body suit with flashing lights to stop them being accidentally trodden on - or worse. The couple's fourth ferret, Daisy May, came a cropper when she sneaked inside what Barbara will initially only describe as "some machinery".

"I would rather not say I've never got over it," she says. Pushed, however, she wistfully recounts the tale as a warning to future ferret fanciers. "Daisy May was always round at your feet, or asleep in front of the fire, or on your knee. But we were so busy doing tea we didn't notice she wasn't there - until I came to unload the dishwasher. She was in one piece... very clean... but dead."

"Now we never turn it on until we have counted heads."

CLASSIFIED

Legal Notices

In the High Court of Justice
No 1961 of 1998

Re: DENIS JOHN DE JERSEY-LAWRENCE

The Denys John De Jersey-Lawrence

TAKE NOTICE that a bankruptcy petition has been presented against you in the Court by the Official Receiver at 1-9

Paternoster Row, London, EC4N 3DF, Middlesex and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

Legal Notices

In the High Court of Justice
No 1961 of 1998

Re: DENIS JOHN DE JERSEY-LAWRENCE

The Denys John De Jersey-Lawrence

TAKE NOTICE that a bankruptcy petition has been presented against you in the Court by the Official Receiver at 1-9

Paternoster Row, London, EC4N 3DF, Middlesex and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

Legal Notices

In the High Court of Justice
No 1961 of 1998

Re: DENIS JOHN DE JERSEY-LAWRENCE

The Denys John De Jersey-Lawrence

TAKE NOTICE that a bankruptcy petition has been presented against you in the Court by the Official Receiver at 1-9

Paternoster Row, London, EC4N 3DF, Middlesex and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

respondent and the Court has ordered that the petitioned notices at the

The hard man of sculpture

Continued from page 1
man. And I felt like a hero. I felt the absolute tops."

Did you ever feel remorse for anything you did? "That's one of the things I had to think about in the Special Unit. I was fundamentally broken down by the time I arrived there, and knew I could not build myself up again without looking very hard at everything I had done. And I did, yes, feel remorse for the harm I'd caused people. Not only the people I was violent to, but their families, and my family. It's not a nice thing to have to live with."

What were the Krays like? "They put me up in a safe house in London when they were looking for me for the murder. They were obviously power houses in their time. When you went with them, you never had to put your hand in your pocket. They were great hosts. And although the mythology says Ronnie was barking, I didn't get any hint of that. "In the flesh, were they as scary as the Kranksies? "Maybe not!" I wonder how he views his past. He says it is still very



Jimmy Boyle: he loved his mum, all right

much a part of him, but it isn't who he is any more. That said, it can resurface to batter him from time-to-time. Prior to meeting Sarah, he'd had two children - Tricia and Jimmy - by a woman who he was going out with at the time of his life sentence. Tricia is "doing alright", but Jimmy, a heroin addict and dealer, was murdered four years ago by another

dealer. Jimmy blames himself entirely for his son's death. "I let both those children down... two kids I'd abandoned and didn't give a thought to. I don't blame the boy that murdered Jimmy. I hope that boy can manage to sort his life out and get on with it. If I had been what I should have been, my son would not have been where he was, and would not have been

killed. I abandoned my responsibility as a parent, and that is the biggest responsibility one has. I'm a better father now than I could ever have been. Suzi and Kydd know all about his past. "I couldn't not tell them. And? "I'm their dad and they love me."

We part after the lunch. "Thanks," he says politely. I am kissed on both cheeks. He even smells expensive. He goes back to his lovely house and pensive wheelbarrow. I get the flight back to London, inspired by Jimmy's transformation, and filled with remorse for my own cruel past. I phone my little sister, who says she'd most certainly forgive me if she didn't still HATE me so much. I say that if you believe in original sin, then you have to believe in redemption. She says: "Go away. I'm watching *Animal Hospital*." I feel we are reconciled at last. Like I said, I think Jimmy Boyle has quite a lot to teach us all.

'Hero of the Underworld' is published by *Serpent's Tail* on 4 Feb, £9.99

Wind

Microsoft is 1

DO YOU ever read the small print on the licence that come with software? Geoffrey Bennett did, and achieved something amazing: he discovered the cost of a bundled copy of Microsoft Windows is £42.80.

A few judges and witnesses in Washington have heard Mr Bennett did it the hard way: he read his Windows End User Licence Agreement (EULA). Based on that he demanded, and obtained, a refund of £41.10 (£42.80, for not using the operating system. Was it worth it? "It's the principle of the thing," he notes.

Bennett, a computer systems manager for an Australian web design and publishing company, decided that he wanted a Toshiba notebook. But being a fan of Linux, the free operating system, he didn't want to pay for the Windows 95 that came with it. But Toshiba refused to sell him a notebook without Windows, so Bennett bought one, but before

INTEL ANNOUNCED that it is working with Data Security on new technologies that will support for security in a commerce built in. A t ID and a random num generator are planned efficiency and data en

"We're entering an where e-commerce transactions will be co on a global network of a billion connected i hundreds of millions of servers. The e-transac must be secure," said i Glancy, general manag Intel's platform securi division. "Products fro and RSA that incorpo security technologies e ensure that the develop of secure applications continues at a rapid p

As well as aiding e-commerce the technol would help Intel crack on the trade in over-clo processors where a 386 chip can be tweaked to 500MHz and sold for a premium. Some analys however, are concerned the new features raise issues, as they allow us be tracked while they s Net. Intel is thought t working on a software y turn off the ID feature.

A RECORD for cracking bit Data Encryption Sta (DES) algorithm was st week in a joint effort be the Electronic Frontie Foundation (EFF) and Distributed.Net. An enc message was uncovered hours 15 minutes, winni team \$10,000 (US\$200) fr RSA Data Security, an organisation that spurs encryption-breaking challenges as part of its lobbying to allow the unregulated export of str encryption software fro United States.

The previous record hours was set last July t EFF using a specially bu computer "Deep Crack". time a network of 100 (n on the Internet was use "When designing secure systems and infrastru sedy, listen to cryptographers, not to politicians." John Gilmer, EFF co-founder said. He added that the record sh be a warning to anyone r relies on 56-bit keys to data secure.

"DES was a very strai algorithm," Jim Baidas, president, said. "But any algorithm, any key size, eventually run out of life has served well over the 20 or 24 years."

THE MICROSOFT trial in Washington continued la week with Microsoft's fir witness, the MIT econo Richard Schmalensee, defending the company's decision to integrate the Internet Explorer brows into its operating system rejecting Department of Justice (DOJ) accusation that the decision had bar consumers by limiting c DOJ lawyer David Bo produced an internal Microsoft marketing rep

Don't say I haven't tested my body to the limit

SOMETHING DARING that I like to do at this time of year is to go out without putting on my coat or gloves, or any other protection against the elements, and walk the 30 or so yards to the bottom of our drive to bring in the morning paper from a little box on a post.

Now you might say that that doesn't sound very daring at all, and in a sense you would be right because it only takes about 20 seconds there and back, but here is the thing that makes it special: sometimes I hang around out there just to see how long I can stand the cold.

I don't want to sound boastful, but I have devoted much of my life to testing the tolerance to extremes of the human body, often with very little thought to the potential long-term peril to myself - for instance, allowing a leg to go fast asleep in a cinema and then seeing what happens if I try to go for popcorn, or wrapping an elastic band around my index finger to see if I can make it explode.

It is through this work that I have made some important

breakthroughs, notably the discovery that very hot surfaces don't necessarily look hot, and that temporary amnesia can be reliably induced by placing the head immediately beneath an open drawer.

I expect your instinct is to regard such behaviour as foolhardy, but let me remind you of all those occasions when you yourself have stuck a finger into a small flame just to see what would happen - and what exactly did happen, eh? - or stood first on one leg and then the other in a scalding bath waiting for an inflow of cold water to moderate the temperature, or sat at a kitchen table quietly absorbed with letting melted candle wax drip onto your fingers, or a great deal else I could mention.

At least when I engage in these matters it is in a spirit of serious scientific enquiry. Which is why, as I say, I like to go for the morning paper in the least encumbering apparel that decency and Mrs Bryson will allow.

This morning when I set off it was minus 19F (minus 28C) out

there - cold enough to reconfigure the anatomy of a brass monkey, as I believe the saying has it. Unless you have a particularly vivid imagination, or are reading this in a chest freezer, you may find such extreme chilliness difficult to conceive.

So let me tell you just how cold it is: very.

When you step outside in such weather, for the first instant it is startlingly invigorating - not unlike the experience of diving into cold water, a sort of wake-up call to every corpulence.

But that phase passes quickly. Before you have trudged a few yards, your face feels as it would after a sharp slap, your extremities are aching, and every breath you take hurts. By the time you return to the house your fingers and toes are throbbing with a gentle but insistent pain and you notice with interest that your cheeks yield no sensation at all.

The little residual heat you brought from the house is long gone, and your clothes have ceased to have any insulating



value. It is decidedly uncomfortable.

Nineteen degrees below zero is unusually cold even for northern New England, so I was interested to see how long I could bear such an exposure, and the answer was 39 seconds. I don't mean that that's how long it took for me to get bored with the idea, or to think, "Gracious it is rather chilly; I guess I'll go in now." I mean that's how long it took me to be so cold that I would have climbed over my mother to get inside first.

New Hampshire is famous for

its harsh winters, but in fact there are plenty of places much worse. The coldest temperature ever recorded here was minus 46F, back in 1935, but 20 other states - nearly half - have had lower lows than that. The bleakest thermometer reading yet seen in the US was at Prospect Creek, Alaska, in 1971, when the temperature fell to minus 79.8F.

Of course, almost any place can have a cold snap. The real test of a winter is in its duration. In International Falls, Minnesota, the winters are so long and ferocious that the mean annual temperature is just 36.5F (2.5C), which is very mean indeed. Nearby there is a town called (honestly) Frigid, where I suspect the situation is even worse, but they are just too depressed to report.

However, the record for the most wretched inhabited place ever must surely go to Langdon, North Dakota, which in the winter of 1935-36 recorded 176 consecutive days of below freezing temperatures, including 67 consecutive days in which the

temperature fell below 0F (i.e. into the shrieking brass monkey zone) for at least part of the day, and 41 consecutive days when the temperature did not rise above 0F.

Personally, I would find it very hard to spend 176 consecutive days in North Dakota at any time, but I guess that is another matter.

In any case, I have all I can handle right here in New Hampshire. I was dreading the long, cruel winters in New England, but to my surprise they delight me. Partly it is because they are so shocking.

There really is something exhilarating about the sharpness of the cold, the cleanliness of the air. And winters here are stunningly pretty. Every rooftop and mailbox wears a jaunty cap of snow for months on end. Nearly every day the sun shines, so there is none of the oppressive grey gloom that characterises winter in so many other places.

And when the snow begins to get trampled or dirty, there is generally a new fall that fluffs it up a bit again.

People here actually get excited about winter. There is skiing and ice skating and sledging on the local gold course. One of our neighbours floods his back garden and turns it into a skating pond for the kids on our street. The local college has a winter carnival, with ice sculptures on the college green. It is all very cheery.

Best of all, you know that winter is just one in an endless cycle of reliable, well-defined seasons. When the cold starts to get to you, there is the reassurance of knowing that a good hot summer is just around the corner.

Apart from anything else it means a whole new set of interesting experimental challenges, involving sunburn, poison ivy, infectious deer ticks, electric hedge clippers and - this goes without saying - barbecue lighter fluid. I can't wait.

'Notes from a Big Country' by Bill Bryson (Doubleday, £16.99) can be purchased at major bookshops or by mail-order on 01624 675137

Harsh penalties in poisoned paradise

Goa used to be an idyllic island of free and easy lifestyle. But the tourist trade and police corruption are tainting the one-time hippy heaven. By Peter Popham

THE boy from Leytonstone in East London was young and thin and out of his depth. He had a stubbly beard and thick glasses and wore a Chelsea strip, and was sandwiched between two friends, a girl and another boy, and the funk of fear came off him in waves, like heat. From the shadows of the gloomy office of the Anti-Narcotics Unit came the clattering of big old typewriters.

A smile twitched across his face: something bitterly comic had struck him. "I was done recently in London for a deal of grass," he said. "But the cop gave it back to me. He said it wasn't worth the paperwork."

In Goa, that deal is worth 10 years. Last week a Sunday newspaper reported that Alexia Stewart, the daughter of an Oxford don, and her boyfriend Gary Carter, had been sentenced to 10 years in prison in Goa for possession of cannabis, and had begun serving their sentences in Aguda prison in the state. The couple, who maintain that they were framed by the police, are the latest in a long line of young people from Britain whose trip to one of the world's cheapest yet most convincing versions of tropical paradise ends in disaster.

Goa is one of the most beautiful holiday destinations in India, and arguably in all of Asia. A Portuguese colony until forcibly taken over by independent India in 1961, it has everything one could wish for in a tropical resort. The beaches are long, broad and golden; those away from the greatest press of visitors are still fairly clean. Behind each beach is a grove of tall coconut palms, then a strip of paddy fields, then more palms, shading villages of handsome old Portuguese houses; hazy in the distance, framing the idyllic scene, are the slopes of the Western Ghats.

Goa has scenery, architecture, history, an extraordinary former capital full of immense churches abandoned hundreds of years ago; it has brilliant, balmy weather most of the year, and the style and poise of a place that still hangs on to its Latin urbanity.

Yet, as a result of commercial greed and myopia, instead of conserving and capitalising on its unique heritage, Goa has become one of the cheapest and most down-market tropical destinations in the world. During the season, that lasts from November to the end of March, thousands of young European holidaymakers fly in to Dabolim Airport every week on charter flights, more than 60 per cent of them British. From there they fan out north and south across the state, the package holidaymakers sticking to the intensively developed tourist hot spots such as Calangute, the backpackers,



Goa's once unspoilt beaches are now packed with tourists - and rife with drugs, sold alongside food, drink and souvenirs

Nigel Tisdall/Rea

the students, the drole vacationers and the tractor drivers and grape pickers on furlough renting Enfield motorbikes, and heading north to Anjuna, Vagator and Arambol, south as far as Palolem.

For now, there is no beach in Goa that the visitors have not colonised. Some, like Calangute, have been so heavily developed that the increasingly squalid sand has become just an appendage to the sprawl of bars, boutiques and cafés under the palm trees. Others, like Arambol, still look virginal. But everywhere, from the busiest beach to the quietest, the necessary services are provided: shack cafés on the sand selling cold beer, fish curry and banana pancakes; dirt cheap rooms, some providing a mattress on a concrete floor for little more than £1 a night; rental motorbikes - and drugs.

In Goa there is no need to go looking for drugs; they come and find you. Anyone lying on the soft sand at Anjuna or Arambol has their reverie interrupted every few minutes by an amazing variety of hawkers: selling T-shirts and trinkets, offering beach umbrellas for rent, offering to clean the wax out of your ears (there is a sheaf of testimonials), offering "pineapple, sandwich, cold drinks, (sotto voce) dope..."

In the cafés in the lee of the rocks at Vagator, the hippies may seem a little self-absorbed, but unless you look outrageously out of place, sooner or later the joint will come round your way. At Arambol, as a Yorkshireman fresh from cutting and sorting tulips in Holland put it, while still finding his feet in Goa: "They really like chillums here - they stick

a big fat chillum in your face, and it seems a bit rude to turn it down."

Then there are the trance music parties all night on the beach, where Ecstasy or Acid are as much a part of it all as the music, and the cold, and paranoia, and heavy policing of Britain seem a million miles away. Drugs have been integral to the Goa experience ever since Allan Ginsberg and his fellow proto-hippies discovered the place in the early Sixties. Soft drugs, particularly marijuana, have long had an ambiguous position in India.

At religious celebrations, like last year's Kumbh Mela on the banks of the Ganges, the holiest men of Hinduism, the naked ascetics called sadhus, openly smoked chillums or joints. In the Dionysian spring festival of Holi, a drink of bhang (made from the leaves of hemp) is a popular (and apparently legal) way of getting into the mood of abandonment. In the big cities, soft drugs are very readily obtained.

Yet it is this ambiguity that has proved disastrous for many visitors to Goa. The weather, the idyllic setting, the seductive sense that everything is easy and cheap, all conspire to create a sense of security. Yet the Indian law against cannabis possession is both clear and draconian. For possession of 25 grams or less, the sentence is six months. For more than 25 grams, it is 10 years. The sentences are mandatory. The judge has no leeway.

For many years, the main point of the drug laws appeared to be to provide the Goan police with a useful extra income. The saturation level of illegal drugs made the abuse

of police power easy and tempting. There were various popular scams: the simple plant followed by threatened arrest and backwards-extended hand; the dodgy dealer, making money at both ends, selling drugs on the beach then informing



Alexia Stewart, sentenced to 10 years in a Goan jail for possession of cannabis

the police. More ambitious wheezes involved extracting large sums in protection from the organisers of trance parties.

But, from time to time, the protests of big hoteliers and package tour operators prodded the police into trying to tackle Goa's "drug paradise" image more strenuously. This is what has been happening during the past two years, following the appointment of a new Inspector General of Police, and the decision by the state government to do everything in its power to frighten off the backpackers and rid Goa of its drug

image. Today, unlucky drug users on Goa's beaches no longer get just a nasty shock, the loss of a few thousand rupees in bribes and an abrupt end to their holiday. "Two or three years ago," said the frightened young Londoner awaiting interrogation in the central police station in Panjim, the state capital, "the police were really corrupt; you'd pay them and just leave the country." Today it is very different - or so they would have us believe.

The tale of Alexia Stewart and Gary Carter is certainly a cautionary one. The couple met in Goa four years ago, when Alexia was taking a break from teaching English in Japan. Like many before them who have been ravished by Goa's beauty, they decided to build a life around the place, spending half the year making money by teaching in Tokyo, and the rest running a cybercafé and clothes shop in Vagator, north Goa.

The dream ended and the nightmare began on 20 March last year, when police barged into the house they rented in Vagator and said they were looking for drugs. Another officer entered from the garden, holding a bag of cannabis which he claimed to have found in the house. Alexia told the *Sunday Times* that the drugs had been planted and that they were innocent.

"We kept telling the police we were long-term visitors to Goa and had spent £10,000 on setting up a local business. Why would we risk it all for £100 of cannabis? They said we could buy our freedom for £2,000, but we never believed the charges would stick, so we didn't pay. Now I would say to anyone that if the po-

lice ask you for money, pay them whether you are guilty or not."

After carrying out an inquiry into operations conducted by the officers who arrested the English couple, the head of police in Goa, Rajan Brar, asked for the charges against the English couple to be dropped. The judge, who hears all drugs cases in the state and is getting a name for severity, chose to ignore his advice and instead applied the mandatory sentence. Now the pair face the prospect of many years locked up for 22 hours out of every 24 in gloomy, airless cells, permitted only two letters and one visitor a month.

Goa's beauty has somehow survived the onslaught of developers and tour companies, but on the beaches the mood is souring. "Goa is much worse than it was," says the youth in Panjim police station. "It's much more crowded. Anjuna's pretty well gone. And they're busting people all the time."

The beaches such as Anjuna, formerly known as peaceful hippy havens, are thronging in the season, the winding lanes under the palms nose-to-tail with rented motorbikes driven much too fast. And the police, bent as well as straight, make hay. In my guest house in Anjuna, two young French women, huddling by themselves in the restaurant, seem to be having a moody, joyless holiday. We get talking, and it transpires that their best friend is in jail, awaiting trial on drugs charges. They spend their days trying to drum up support for her, soliciting letters from home, drafting appeals to the judge, citing their friend's academic distinction and aristocratic family.

Also near Anjuna beach, in a nice old house behind the Orange Boom Restaurant, is a man who has seen it all. With dreadlocks to his waist and a comfortable paunch, Goa Gill looks the part of hippy patriarch. Around a log fire on his patio, as the sun goes down over the paddy fields, and the cicadas shriek in the palms, he recounts his journey here. He first came to Goa, he says, in 1970, after the original hippy scene in San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district fell apart. He played music, studied meditation, tramped around India, ended up here.

"Back in those days there were so few of us in India that everywhere you went you were surrounded by people pointing and jabbering," he says. "But in Goa, where the Portuguese had been for 450 years, they were completely relaxed about foreigners, and they let us get on with our own thing without bothering us at all."

Goa Gill reminds one what Goa used to be all about. People like him have been arriving in Goa for 30 years, finding something intensely sympathetic in its beauty, its hybrid culture, its relaxed, Latin attitude to pleasure; finding it easy to stay put and become part of the weave and the warp. (Goa Gill's contribution, he claims, is to have been the inventor of the music known as Goa Trance.)

Mass package tourism has blasted a hole in Goa's charm: now the place is crawling with people who have come here for no reason other than that it is cheap. And now a brutal police initiative in the service of a cruelly rigid law threatens to kill off the charm altogether.

SHAPE OF ARTS TO COME

NO 3: DANCE - DAVID BINTLEY

A prospect with knobs on

The artistic director of Birmingham Royal Ballet believes the future of ballet lies in changing people's attitudes about what ballet can and should be. And where it should be too. By John Percival

Sitting in his office backstage at the Birmingham Hippodrome, David Bintley talks quietly, thoughtfully, convincingly. There can be no doubt that he is a man in the right place at the right time. In three years since becoming artistic director of Birmingham Royal Ballet he has brought what was already a very respectable troupe to be Britain's best ballet company: the liveliest repertoire, the highest number of new works, excellent dancers, enthusiastic audiences.

But he wants a lot more yet: no less than to alter the whole way the possibilities of ballet are perceived in this country. "We've got to make it more serious, bring a change in people's mental attitudes," he says. Most people, he knows, take a narrow, blinkered view of what ballet can and should be.

During his career (he is 41, and was already active in dance from his early teens) he has seen people writing off ballet as a spent force when modern dance arrived to attract much of the media interest and create a new audience of young people. But now, he reckons, there is greater discernment, people can spot clichés in some modern dance too. "We have to show we can affect that younger audience, can deal with subjects and themes that have an appeal to them."

He is delighted to be doing this from a base away from the London centred view of things. "The years coming up are going to be the best time for these cities - Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds. I never felt I was part of a community in London, and it's a pity not to be where you can shape what happens." In Birmingham he is closely involved in many other activities: working at the Repertory Theatre on a new production of *Pojana Game*; serving on a panel to choose public art as part of the Broad Street development; forming links with a local chorus for his *Carmena Burana* and with the University of Central England's theatre design school to work with the company's new choreographers.

Also, he says proudly, he has been in half the city's schools as part of BRB's education programme. "Education is one thing the city asked for when they invited



For David Bintley, it's all about accessibility: 'We don't just want white middle-class little girls who go to ballet classes'

Kajesh Lathigra

us here - and it's happening, with knobs on." Unlike the Royal Opera House manager who notoriously spoke of just paying lip-service to education, he obviously loves it.

And when asked what development he would most like to see within ballet generally, his immediate answer is "I think I would like to see teaching get better at every level across the country. We've got to find a better and more efficient way of teaching, and of finding kids to teach. We don't just want white middle-class little girls who go to ballet classes. We need to make it more acceptable to people and extend participation at all levels. That's the way you're going to attract talent - future choreographers as well as dancers."

He reckons he has now got BRB "more or less where I want it to be. There are sixty dancers,

which is enough for big ambitious productions but not too many for this friendly, all-family atmosphere which the company has always had. That's something rare. When I audition people, I never say 'She'll make a useful corps de ballet dancer'. I try to assess the most interesting and versatile dancers I can, and develop them

arts
021 021 021 021 021 021 021 021

so they know talent, enthusiasm and hard work will be rewarded."

He works himself pretty hard too: this year he is putting on three one-act ballets of his own and collaborating with Galina Samsova on a new production of the old classic *Giselle*, while also busy preparing for his biggest venture yet: a

ballet about King Arthur that will occupy two full evenings. He explains this unprecedented length with the simple question, how can you tell that story in less? Set for premiere next year, this involves the same collaborators for music and design as his acclaimed *Edward II*.

But BRB is certainly not going to become a one-man show under Bintley. This year he is acquiring works by two of the best-known international choreographers, Twyla Tharp and William Forsythe. "I want them so that our audiences can see for themselves, and also for the sake of giving our dancers that experience. But in a way it's easy to get the big names, everyone knows who they are. I would like also to build a long-term relationship with some middle-range names. When Lila York does a bal-

let for us and goes back to tell people in New York this is a marvelous company, and Stanton Welch tells people the same in Australia, that's great for us."

That is in addition to the choreographic projects in which he gets dancers in the company to try their hand at choreography as a joint venture. Last year's Vivaldi *Four Seasons* was so successful that Victor Hochhauser (not noted for rash experiment) is presenting it at the Coliseum this summer with Bintley's *Carmena Burana*. "And I hope some of these dancers will develop to do their own independent works for the repertoire."

So is he neglecting the company's "heritage" ballets among all this activity? "We must always have great love and respect for the past," he says, and judging by the frequency with which the name of

Dame Ninette de Valois is on his lips, he is in no danger of forgetting the Royal Ballet's founder. In fact his reconstruction of her long-forgotten ballet from 1940, *The Prospect Before Us*, is one of the works BRB is bringing to Sadler's Wells next month.

Knowing Bintley's awareness of dance history, it is impossible to avoid thinking that an analogy with the Stuttgart Ballet must be in his mind: the way that company (from a city smaller than Birmingham) sprang to world fame on its first trans-atlantic trip under John Cranko's direction. And before I leave, he quotes something which Cranko's long-time ballerina Marcia Hayde wrote when she had become Cranko's successor as director: "Our past is not without significance, but the future is more important."

A dying fall

CLASSICAL

HAITINK/LPO: MAHLER
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
LONDON

I HAVE often asked myself what makes a really first-rate Mahler conductor. Temperament, that's for sure. Clear thinking, certainly. A thorough understanding of the *fin de siècle* is also very important. And I would imagine that a spot of shared biography helps, too. Witnessing Bernard Haitink conduct the London Philharmonic in Mahler's Ninth reminded me that the two men have at least two significant biographical facts in common: heart problems (hopefully put to rights in Haitink's case) and uncomfortable brushes with their respective opera houses. But while Mahler never lived to see his fifty-first birthday, Haitink approaches seventy in full command of his considerable interpretative gifts. He is a great musician in the truest sense of that much abused term, a man of sound artistic principles: patient, passionate, decisive and profoundly honest. To hear him chart Mahler's lengthy opening *Andante comodo* without undue mannerism or tiresome overstatement, is to appreciate afresh what is surely the century's finest single symphonic movement. Haitink and his players breathed the music's initial paragraphs with an uneasy calm, then made a ferocious beeline for the first fortissimo climax. The contrast was made all the more telling by Haitink's judicious timing.

Ferocity and respite alternated throughout the Symphony's first movement, with the choicest subtleties reserved, performance-wise, for its quietest orchestration. I think in particular of the bassoons, bass clarinet and muted horns; the perfectly paced timpani strokes; the myriad burblings among assorted woodwinds and the pleading lyricism of Mahler's string choirs.

The playing of the London Philharmonic had much to commend it, primarily in terms of the brass (horns in particular) and woodwinds. Just occasionally, I craved a fuller string tone and lighter overall ensemble; but the rhythmic thrust of Haitink's reading was never compromised. The Symphony's second movement is a blustery pot-pourri of Austrian-style dance tunes, cunningly crafted and played on Saturday night with bluff humour. The LPO brass became a village band, though the softer-grained trio sections offered mellow food for thought. Mahler's chirish *Rondo Burleske* fired off at a dangerously fast tempo. The Orchestra held tight to the reins, slipping slightly every now and then but always maintaining the musical tension. The strings fared best in the haunting trio, but their finest moments were heard towards the close of the *Adagio*, music so sublime, so poignantly beautiful, that the players seemed reluctant to let it die. But die it did, as Haitink's left arm fell listlessly towards the score and the silence broke with appreciative applause.

ROB COWAN

The price of life on demons' island

It's possible to create a stage version of *Lord of the Flies* that isn't diminish Golding's innate fable of crash-landed schoolboys reverting to savagery on an idyllic island?

The author always maintained that the chief problem was rather a theatrical performance could depict the process boys becoming men. When

the RSC staged Nigel Williams' adaptation, they used a cast of youngsters. In Marcus Romer's new production, the schoolboys are played, with shades of Dennis Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills*, by professional adult actors. Which approach works best?

A novel is free to play tricks with what you see in your

mind's eye, a knack necessary with a book like *Lord of the Flies* where the characters' interior life, lurching into adulthood, begins to belie outward appearances. On stage, though, seeing is believing (and vice versa) and Romer's visceral production proves it is easier to incarnate the sense that the child is father of the man when you have men impersonating children.

Using a sound score that unsettles mixes heartbeats, primitive pantings, electronic radio crackles, the soft crash of breakers, and the thump of techno music, the production also ingeniously solves the problem of how to evoke the tropical island visually. The action is staged in the wrecked chrome skeleton of the plane in which the boys crash-landed; its bulk and queasily see-sawing

THEATRE
LORD OF THE FLIES
LYRIC HAMMERSMITH
LONDON

wings provide a sort of morbid playground monologue for the cliffs and terrain on which the bloodthirsting pignut, the chases, the tribal dances and the toppling death of Piggy are thrillingly choreographed.

By not overdoing the prissy, pukka aspects of Golding's *Fifties* schoolboys, the production valuably prevents its young audiences from dismissing them as an exotic species of no relevance. There are vivid individual performances, especially from Danny Nutt whose sneering, bullying, proto-Fascist, Jack, is like a study in demonic possession.

Pilot Theatre Company reveal in the programme that when the first reports of killings by children hit the headlines, *Lord of the Flies* became, for them, "the project to work on, because of the need to raise some of the issues involved". It is here that my qualms about Golding's book surface. The witest, most pointed objection to it was made by D J Enright who referred to its "soothing charm" - by which he meant that invoking original sin can be a way of shelving society's own culpability. It's very convenient, say, to demonise the child murderers of James Bulger. Perhaps alongside *Lord of the Flies*, schools could encourage teenagers to read *As If*, Blake Morrison's admirably sensitive examination of the Bulger affair.

PAUL TAYLOR

EN Jonathan Miller's immaculate production... This is a *Traviata* to die for! Observer

January 27 | 29
February 3 | 9 | 12
16 | 19 | 22 | 25
March 2 | 5 | 11 at 7.30pm
February 6 at 6.30pm
Tickets from £5 - £55
English National Opera
London Coliseum WC2
Box Office
0171 632 8300
24 hours

La traviata



Verdi

Staged for an evening (Photo: Bill Sadler) | English National Opera | 0171 632 8300

THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

Today On this day in 1858 Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" had its first performance. It celebrated the walking down the aisle of Victoria (daughter of the Queen) and Prince Frederick of Prussia. Somewhat inauspiciously, their first child grew up to be the Kaiser.

Tomorrow In 1907 there was an absolute riot at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, not on stage, but in an audience furious at the "foul language" of J M Synge's *Playboy of the Western World*. The riots continued in the theatre - but so did the show, thanks to a strong police presence. (Darling, your Garda are wonderful!)

Wednesday Verdi died in 1901 at a ripe old 87. As well as composing, he for a time had a day job as a member of the first Italian Parliament, although he never set his experiences to music (*Il Ponto del Ordore?*).

Thursday The late, and much lamented Ronnie Scott was born in 1927; he was much applauded for his saxophone, his club and his gloomy request to an unresponsive audience: "Let's all hold hands and try to contact the living!"

Friday At the first children's art competition in 1755, Dick Cosway won the under-14 prize, the then enormous sum of £15. He

later became a member of the Royal Academy.

Saturday Stanley Holloway died in 1982. Although his comic monologues were delivered in a Lancashire accent, he was in fact a Londoner and is famed for playing the Cockney bin-emptier in *My Fair Lady*.

Sunday In 1899 Egyptian archaeologists unearthed five life-sized Pharaonic statues at the Temple of Luxor. These dated back to 1470BC, which meant a waste of the last three-and-a-half millennia when they could have been bringing in easy money to visitors at nine quid a throw.

JONATHAN SALE

40 Weekends
in New York
to be won with
TALK to NEW YORK

Talk Radio and The Independent are flying 40 pairs of winners to New York for a weekend in March in our 'Talk to New York' Competition. Throughout February there are 2 New York Weekends to be won every weekday.

Talk Radio, on 1053 and 1089am/medium wave, is the only national commercial talk station. Talk Radio gives you the chance to have your say on the issues that matter. You can talk direct to celebrities and news makers, from Foreign Secretary Robin Cook to actor and comedian Robbie Coltrane, from Formula One driver David Coulthard to boxing impresario Don King.

How to Play 'Talk to New York'

Every day from next Monday we're printing a fresh map, in The Independent Review section, showing 2 different locations in Manhattan.

Tune to Talk Radio and listen for the Avenue and Street No.s for one of that day's locations, identify it on the map and you could be a winner.

How to find Talk Radio

1053 and 1089am across the UK and in the following areas:
1107am: Boston (Lincoln), Gatwick, Liverpool, Lydd (Kent), Paignton (Devon), Southampton
1071am: Newcastle, Nottingham

When to listen to Talk Radio

For your chance to win a trip for two to New York listen to Talk Radio at these times every weekday:

8.20am The Big Boys' Breakfast with Banks & Ferrari
6.20pm Sportszone

talk
radio
1053/1089 am

THE INDEPENDENT

dying
fall

CLASSICAL
AITINK LPO: MAHLER

Boys will be boybands

They're everywhere. From Take That to 911, boybands have become the British pop institution of the decade. So, *Boyz Unlimited*, Channel 4's new boyband spoof is long overdue. Mind you, how *do* you parody a genre that's already parodying itself? By Steve Jelbert.

It is a fallow period for pop when the elderly enjoy the same music as their grandchildren. Or when grown men in their fifties make comments like "Boyzone! Now that's the single of the year! No contest!", as was recently overheard on licensed premises.

While the demise of traditional light entertainment shows, there is a shortage of work for boozers who can *port* in said mime at the same time, so 't is no surprise that boybands are cluttering the hit parade, each one largely indistinguishable from the last, and so much a part of wonderful New Britain that the time has come to honour the genre with a comedy series. Though as industry rumour has it that the average age of *Smash Hits* readers is now seven or eight, down five years in half a decade, it may be on too late for some of its target audience.

It is not the first time anyone has attempted to make comedy capital out of the idea – BBC1 sitcom *2 Point 1 Children* once featured the teenage son in a boyband called Boyband, appropriately enough. But the inherent absurdity of the genre almost defies parody. Take Osman's search for the most inappropriate song for the group to perform. He felt that Dr Hook's gruesomely sultry "A Little Bit More" ("when your body's had enough of me and you're layin' flat out on the floor") was just too tasteless for a pre-pubescent audience, and thus ideal for comic purposes. But 911 have a version of the song currently in the charts. "Ours is better," states Osman. He won't, however, be drawn into criti-

cising the real thing. "I can't be rude about boybands – they're reviewing our show for all the papers," he says.

By Worth's account, his former band never quite fitted the template. "You have to take it with a pinch of salt. We'd be backstage drinking and smoking while other boybands were pumping themselves up. There'd be people walking around with their shirts off until the last minute," he says, recalling his days on package tours. "We had gym memberships and never went," he shrugs, a proffered cigarette in hand. The One knocked it on the head when the only offer of a contract came from a German company. Worth then worked in a video store to pay the bills.

hardly new. Such scams have an honourable history. Simon Napier-Bell, *Sixties* manager and producer, and later *Wham!*'s earthly representative, admits in his hilarious, scurrilous autobiography *You Don't Have To Say You Love Me*, to creating acts such as Fresh, Brut, Bang, Splash and Pudding (I am not making this up) solely to take advances from gullible record companies. A publicity shot for one of these fictitious groups consisted of Napier-Bell's chauffeur, "a man who was cleaning the staircase," and business partner Ray Singer's wife wearing a false moustache.

From the earliest days of British pop, when Reg Smith and Ron Wycherley were re-christened Marty Wilde and Billy Fury by proto-svengali Larry Parnes (wonderfully spoofed in *Boyz n' the City*), to the invention and sale of the Monkees to American TV as a homegrown riposte to the Beatles, young men have naively trusted their elders.

Ultimately, it's good business. A few years ago, Boston's gory new *Kids On Block* were MCA's most profitable act. The label didn't actually release their records — they just held their merchandising rights. Boyzone, whose hilarious debut on Gay Byrne's *Late Late Show* was shown again recently on *Before They Were Famous*, happily admitted to a severe talent deficit, but were canny enough to see that anyone could have a go. Soon their native Dublin saw a boyband explosion — every school had at least one group of hopefuls. Once they body-popped, now they perfect elaborate dance routines.

The next logical step is a return to the theatre for all those singer/actors. Yes, *Boyzband* is a musical telling the story of a... well, you get the idea, scheduled to open in the



Boyz Unlimited. Channel 4's spoof boyband: non-cultural perfection will be achieved if one of their songs is a hit in the real charts

West End in May. Producer Adam Spiegel knows his audience. "This is the West End. There has to be room for an upbeat ending," he says, but he's aware of the potential for drama. "What's particularly interesting about boybands is that they're ill-prepared for success, but hungry for it."

Damien Flood, cast as a band member, is just delighted to get the role. Something of a veteran, he's toured as a solo artist with the likes of Boyzone. "This is my last chance to do a show of this genre. I'm 26," he points out. "There will be a record deal in our contracts. They'll release depending on how it goes."

With material from the likes of Conor Reeves, we could see a fake band played by actors, having real hits in the real world. Perfect pop.

And if it doesn't work out, there's always straight theatre. Or PR - Brother Beyond's Carl Fish is now head of press at Columbia records. Or even catering - flashy restaurant

Denim is apparently backed by a couple of ex-teen sensations. And to think that a member of the Yardbirds once quit, complaining: "I'm too old at 23 for all those screaming kids leaping about."

'Boyz Unlimited' starts on Channel 4 on 6 February

PARENTS!

We need your guidance



Linda McCartney's new single, *The Light Comes From Within*, has been given a 'parental guidance' sticker, warning of its 'explicit lyrics'.

Your children need your guidance on this matter. It is your Parental Duty to listen to this record and to decide once and for all if you think your children will be morally corrupted by the line in the song which contains the 'explicit lyric':

**"you say I'm simple, you say I'm a hick-
you're f***ing no-one, you stupid d***"**

Should you decide that your children must not hear this record we would be grateful for your wisdom and good sense and will put our fingers in our ears whenever we hear it played. If, on the other hand, you feel that no harm will come to your children by being exposed to this song, give the guidance so sorely needed and tell them it's OK to do so.

Do your duty!
Do not neglect your children's well being.
You must act now!

Listen to this record and give us your Parental Guidance. Thank you for your attention on this vital matter.

P.5. By the way, young people, we know you don't listen to them anyway

ends
York
with
YORK

City of
 Our
 County
 Appendix

Radio

dio

NT

NETWORK

Who needs to go out clubbing when you have a computer, an Internet connection and a good sound system? Mark Chadbourn reports

House party

DODGY MUSIC, no water, some E'd up idiot dancing like a hippopotamus with gout. The hardships facing the average clubber are many. But having your wild night of hedonism disrupted by your mum's bridge party is not normally at the top of the list. The latest development in the club world could, however, make that terrifying proposition a regular occurrence. Welcome to Net Clubbing, a concept which, at first glance, suggests it was thought up by brains overcooked by too much dancing and not enough liquid intake.

Webcasts – audio broadcasts over the web – delivered direct from a top venue into your own PC or Mac at home is the latest boom area in a club world increasingly driven by the desperate search for something new. With your machine hooked into a state-of-the-art sound system you can even re-create that nausea-inducing bass rumble and set off your neighbour's car alarm. In effect, your front room – or office – “becomes” the club.

The advantages are obvious: no trouble getting to the bar/toilets/on to the dance floor; no beetle-browed bouncers; you can choose the people you want to dance with. The downside: it's your home.

The whole point of clubbing would seem to be that you go to a “club”. The heady atmosphere fired by hundreds of people having the time of their lives, the noise, the bustle, the sensory overload, all appear as

vital as the music itself. Yet in the last three years, club attendance has fallen sharply. Obviously, not everyone is enamoured of the oppressive heat, smoke and claustrophobic presence of too many strangers.

The main proponents of Net Clubbing argue that it's actually a complementary activity, rather than something designed to turn the social-minded clubber into a cocoon. Anne Neftel, 25, a regular clubber and DJ, claims it's one of the most positive developments to hit the club world in years.

“The attractions are pretty obvious,” she says. “If you haven't been to a club before you can check out what the music is like. There are also archives of gigs, so if you've got a CD burner you can download a whole CD's worth of music. To be honest, it's the music that takes me to clubs. I find the social aspects pretty annoying.”

“As the technical side improves, this will get bigger and bigger. At the moment it uses Real Audio, so it's more in tune with the PC. I have a Mac and I've had some problems configuring it. But advances are being made all the time. Soon you'll be able to shoot in and out of various worlds and various stations like you would tuning across a radio.”

“The big thing for me will be lots of freedom and less regulation and less censorship.”

For Mark Nicholson, 25, a musician, the main advantage seems to



Enthusiasts go net clubbing at Sprawl at the Global Cafe

Neville Elder

be the clubber's nirvana of the venue that never closes. “There's always something in the world going on,” he says. “Whenever you feel like it, whatever time of the night or day, you can have a browse. The other thing is that, if you can't get to a club one night, you can still check out the music by going to the archive.”

Matt Atkins, also 25 and a musician, champions the egalitarian aspects of Net Clubbing. The elitism of some of London's clubs is endemic, and if you live in rural areas

it's even easier to feel out of the loop of coolness. But the netcasts bring a taste of that world into anyone's home. “Plus, by going round to friends' houses to check it out, you still get the social side,” he says.

One of the first clubs to make regular netcasts is Sprawl, at the Global Cafe in Soho's Golden Square: it also webcasts its blend of electronic, experimental, yet beat-orientated music. Douglas Benford and Iris Garrelds, both techno-smart and understand the advantages and lim-

itations of the medium, run Sprawl. “I disagree with the whole concept of clubbing in your home,” Benford says. “Clubbing is a social thing. I wouldn't want to see it replace going to a club as an activity.”

“But, for whatever reason, there are always people who can't get to the club,” he says. “The webcasts are a good showcase for our music. Now we can reach anybody in the world, but we have a particular following in the US where people tune in like they're listening to a radio.”

Benford is thinking about where the technology will take his club in the future. There's no reason why a webcast linked into the right sound systems couldn't have Sprawl appearing at numerous venues all over the globe simultaneously.

The Global Cafe, one of London's Internet cafes, already has a lucrative sideline in webcasts and is constantly breaking into new areas. Apart from regular webcasts covering the diversity of the club scene, it has also put out a documentary

event on Gulf War syndrome, a Hewlett Packard corporate webcast and a health authorities drug information webcast.

For the committed clubber, the lure of the venue will always be unshakable. But for anyone else, the background to the perfect club atmosphere could increasingly be net curtains and three flying ducks on the wall.

Global Cafe: gold.globalcafe.co.uk
Sprawl: www.dfuse.com/sprawl

First we made it small.

Then we reduced it.

8 pages per minute for only £279.
Xerox DocuPrint P8e Personal Laser Printer.

Don't let its size deceive you. The Xerox DocuPrint P8e hammers out a hugely impressive 8 black and white pages per minute. While a full load of 150 sheets makes short work of long runs, it's the biggest deal is the price tag – just £279* or further information or to place an order call 300 454 397 now.

THE DOCUMENT COMPANY

XEROX

XEROX. PRINTERS.

To find out more visit us at www.xerox.co.uk or complete the coupon and return it to us at Xerox P8e, Xerox (UK) Ltd, FREEPOST RU 4431, Uxbridge, UB8 3HA.

Name

Address

Postcode Tel No.

MY TECHNOLOGY

If it crashes, the bang goes out of our act

Steve McNicholas, director of *Stomp*, tells how his troupe's low-tech dance performances depend on an Apple PowerBook



Steve McNicholas with the all-important PowerBook

Andrew Hasson

WHEN I stroll in with a PowerBook, people are always a little bit surprised it can convey our work. After all, in some respects, our show is anti-technology – archaic objects are used as instruments and the show uses none. But behind the scenes is the PowerBook, planning, organising and making *Stomp* very multimedia.

We started out as a bit of a cottage industry. Initially, we worked with touring companies, so wherever we were geographically, I needed to run our business. A mobile office was the only feasible arrangement. Plus, at the beginning, I did everything: the accounts, as well as the publicity, photography and directing the show. This could all be done from one source – the PowerBook.

Over the years, the company has grown: we have five companies around the world and do a lot of filming. So although I don't do accounts or administration and don't need a mobile office as such, I use the PowerBook as a mobile studio. I keep in touch with all the companies and aspects of the show through e-mail contact with performers and company managers.

The creative potential of the PowerBook is very important. For instance, when we are shooting films or commercials, storyboard work is done on the PowerBook. I am trying out a program at the moment called StoryBoard Artist, but previously I have made a storyboard collage myself. That is the only time I have used a program that works a specific purpose.

I haven't yet found a program to do everything I want. In the past I have yoked programs together, perhaps Pho-

toshop and Videoshop, anything to get where I want.

One classic use is in shooting a commercial. I go on location with a Nikon F900 digital camera. Every conceivable angle is then downloaded on the computer. But we might also do some drawings, either drawing direct on to the computer or scanning in images. Alternatively, if we need to build something around the location, I could construct a 3-D view on the computer. So storyboards are often a collage of digital photography and art pad work.

The PowerBook is basically our visual tool. But it also helps with the music. Everything we do is worked to a rhythm, so we might record a basic rhythm on to the PowerBook and then overlay images. It cuts down on time. When deciding possible ways to shoot, we can quickly digitise the shots, do some edits and check how the cuts work and the flow of movement. And we can play it back, for instance, when doing a presentation.

I have always trained myself how to use the technology. I don't go into shops – you tend not to get a great deal of help – so

information tends to come from reading a magazine, or the Internet is particularly helpful when searching for something specific. My enthusiasm for computer technology is down to using a music sequencer: it opened my eyes to the computer as a useful tool with creative possibilities.

A lot of people have a computer block. When we walk in with the PowerBook, clients are always amazed at what we do. They say they didn't know what could be done, which really surprises me. I am frustrated by the attitude that computers are only for smart or clever people when they are just tools to be used. I am not a computer technician or interested in bytes, bits and programming, but it helps me write or create. *Stomp* couldn't exist without this technology. What we do now would be a nightmare without the PowerBook.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

Stomp embark on their first-ever UK tour on 26 January at Chichester Festival Theatre (01243 781 312). For more details visit www.stomp.co.uk

501.1 من الاموال

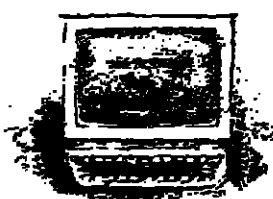
BYTES

ANDY OLDFIELD

INTEL ANNOUNCED last week that it is working with RSA Data Security on new technologies that will allow it to build Pentium III chips with support for security and e-commerce built in. A unique ID and a random number generator are planned to boost efficiency and data encryption.

"We're entering an age where e-commerce transactions will be conducted on a global network consisting of a billion connected PCs and hundreds of millions of servers. These transactions must be secure," said Michael Glancy, general manager of Intel's platform security division. "Products from Intel and RSA that incorporate new security technologies will help ensure that the development of secure applications continues at a rapid pace."

As well as aiding e-commerce the technology would help Intel crack down on the trade in over-clocked processors where a 266MHz chip can be tweaked to run at 400MHz and sold for a premium. Some analysts, however, are concerned that the new features raise privacy issues, as they allow users to be tracked while they surf the Net. Intel is thought to be working on a software patch to turn off the ID feature.



from 8 May 1998, which said IE was "fundamentally not compelling... not differentiated" from Netscape's browser. Schmalensee agreed, undercutting Microsoft's claims that its \$500m (£310m) research spending had produced a better product. He also acknowledged that the integration of products would worry Netscape, and that Microsoft had spent money to induce service providers to use IE rather than Netscape Navigator, buying out their contracts with Netscape.

Schmalensee maintained, however, that Microsoft was not a monopolist and couldn't restrict distribution of competing computer software. Using economics arguments, he outlined a case based on pricing suggesting that if Microsoft was indeed a monopolist it would be charging \$500 to \$2,000 for a copy of Windows 98, instead of selling it to computer makers at about \$50.

A RECORD for cracking the 56-bit Data Encryption Standard (DES) algorithm was set last week in a joint effort between the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) and Distributed.Net. An encrypted message was uncovered in 22 hours 15 minutes, winning the team \$10,000 (£5,200) from RSA Data Security, an organisation that sponsors encryption-breaking challenges as part of its lobbying to allow the unfettered export of strong encryption software from the United States.

The previous record of 56 hours was set last July by EFF using a specially built computer, Deep Crack. This time a network of 100,000 PCs on the Internet was used. "When designing secure systems and infrastructure for society, listen to cryptographers, not to politicians," John Gilmore, EFF co-founder, said. He added that the record should be a warning to anyone who relies on 56-bit keys to keep data secure.

"DES was a very strong algorithm," Jim Bidzos, RSA president, said. "But any algorithm, any key size, will eventually run out of life. DES has served well over the last 23 or 24 years."

THE MICROSOFT trial in Washington continued last week with Microsoft's first witness, the MIT economist Richard Schmalensee, defending the company's decision to integrate the Internet Explorer browser into its operating systems and rejecting Department of Justice (DOJ) accusations that the decision had harmed consumers by limiting choice.

DOJ lawyer David Boies produced an internal Microsoft marketing report

NETWORK SOLUTIONS Inc. the body that has held a US government monopoly on assigning top-level domain names, had difficulties in registering new names last week. Instead of a matter of hours, the company's software took days to process new applications. Some customers say their requests were lost, resulting in other people registering their domains.

NSI, which last year registered 1.9 million addresses - almost double that of the previous year - said problems were due to record numbers of registrations and a series of fraudulent e-mail registrations since the New Year, overloading the system. Competitors fear that the problems will delay NSI's ability to make its database available in March as part of the plan to cede its authority when its contract to assign domain names expires.

IN WASHINGTON last week, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) said it would delay until 9 March the administrative hearing due next month of charges against Intel. Lawyers from both sides requested extra time to prepare their cases and pre-trial depositions.

Intel, which makes four out of five processors found on desktop PCs, is alleged to have abused its dominant position in the computer chip market by withholding technical information from three competitors - Compaq, Digital and Intergraph - who had sued it for patent infringement. In preparing its case the FTC spent a year and a half interviewing other Intel rivals, such as AMD and National Semiconductor, implying that it is considering a wider anti-trust action.



Bunker mentality: inside the former RAF bunker in Kent, where Adam Laurie plans to house data storage hardware and servers

John Voos

E-commerce joins the underground economy

Stephen McLaren meets the head of AL Digital, an information technology company that is taking the concept of secure servers and data protection to a new level

You can tell AL Digital is keen on data security. While I am waiting to be ushered into the bowels of its new data centre, 300ft underground in a recently converted RAF command bunker in Kent, the on-site PCs are taking part in a global cryptography competition.

AL Digital's computers were participating in the DES III Challenge, which is an attempt to break the latest 56bit cryptography standards in record time (see Bytes, left). The aim of this exercise - according to Adam Laurie, AL Digital's owner - was to prove that the level of encryption the US government believes is strong enough for individuals is anything but. In the end, a rival effort using a specially-built supercomputer broke the code in 22 hours and won its operators \$10,000.

AL Digital runs on a strong streak of paranoia about the vulnerability of data to hostile eyes, whether they belong to hackers, terrorists, government or the police. Hence Laurie doesn't want his face identified in the photographs, and his prized possession is an everything-proof bunker that he envisages will become a repository for data belonging to similarly paranoid business-

es, such as banks and insurance companies.

As we toured the cold grey concrete corridors, only occasionally brightened by leftover RAF "Do Not..." banners, Laurie explained his vision.

"We do a lot of security-based work for clients and we noticed how physically insecure many companies' servers were," he said. "So we started looking for a facilities-managed site to operate for clients, and when this came on the market we thought, bingo!"

"It's designed exactly for the purpose we are putting it to, which is securely housing computers, and built to a spec you could never achieve in the commercial world. To build one above ground from scratch would cost around £100m."

So if you are a suitably-paranoid entrepreneur with data-critical servers needing a good home, what do you get for your money? Well, for about £15,000 a server you get an environment which is protected by an electric fence, security guards, CCTV, bomb-proof doors, decontamination units and concrete walls five metres thick. Diesel generators and banks of batteries keep the whole facility running independently of what is going on in the outside

world. When Laurie says he would recruit armed guards, if allowed, you believe him, though I do feel obliged to suggest a degree of overkill.

"Well, the IRA bomb in the City caused extensive damage to banks and data centres and presumably it was placed there for that very reason. Thankfully no terrorist organisation has bombs big enough to cause damage to the blast doors

'No terrorist organisation has bombs big enough to cause damage to the blast doors here'

down here. And anyway, the building is being put to good use, it would have been a shame for it to go to waste."

Since the previous owners were in the communications business, albeit under potential nuclear war conditions, Laurie mentions that bandwidth into the bunker isn't an issue, since the RAF laid miles of fibre-optic cable which is just waiting to be brought on-stream. This

means that only a very basic level of supervisory staff needs to be around at any one time, adding to the noticeably spooky atmosphere in the maze of strip-lit concrete.

"It's very spooky at night and you keep thinking what it must have been like when it was humming away 24 hours a day, monitoring possible nuclear attacks. Some people who've come round since we bought it a few months ago, haven't been able to make it past the blast doors because it feels too oppressive."

AL Digital, however, seems to thrive in the underground: as well as running the Internet pirate radio station interface, it is the author of Apache SSL Open Source software that enables strong encryption to be added to Apache servers, which are the most numerous on the Web. This means that credit card payments made via such servers are protected by 128bit encryption, which has yet to be cracked even by the most powerful supercomputer.

Indeed, it is their championing of strong cryptography which says more about AL Digital's attitude to data security than even the physical security of their new abode.

"The US government says 56bit encryption is good enough for the public, we say: 'No it's not, watch,

we've cracked it', Laurie says. "One of the reasons e-commerce is still poised to take off is because the tools to keep data secure are not strong enough. I believe it would take off massively if crypto restrictions were removed."

Although much of what the company is railing against originates in Washington, the Labour Government's Electronic Commerce Bill - which was in Cabinet discussion last week - may be a source of future problems for Adam Laurie and his company. The Government is expected to put restrictions on those companies offering cryptography services which don't make the code-breaking keys available to authorities on demand. Adam Laurie's bunker may be 300ft under, but even that may not be deep enough to avoid the long arms of such a law.

As yet, the deep vaults remain relatively empty, awaiting the expected hordes of businesses which, Laurie hopes, will come to realise that in the network economy, data has exactly the same value as cold hard cash. If bank vaults are deemed the necessary storage arrangements for money then perhaps such bunkers are indeed the logical place to store all those beige boxes which hold our credit card numbers.

Windows of opportunity

Microsoft is facing a refund rebellion. Charles Arthur reports

DO YOU ever read the small print on the licence that comes with software? Geoffrey Bennett did, and achieved something amazing: he discovered the cost of a bundled copy of Microsoft Windows is £42.80.

A few judges and witnesses in Washington have heard Microsoft reveal those figures, in sessions closed to the public. Mr Bennett did it the hard way: he read his Windows End User Licence Agreement (EULA). Based on that he demanded, and obtained, a refund of £42.80 (£42.80), for not using the operating system. Was it worth it? "It's the principle of the thing," he notes.

Bennett, a computer systems manager for an Australian Web design and publishing company, decided that he wanted a Toshiba notebook. But, being a fan of Linux, the increasingly popular open source operating system, he didn't want to pay for the Windows 95 that came with it.

But Toshiba refused sell him a notebook without Windows, so Bennett bought one, but before

turning it on, he read the EULA, which included two key sentences: "If you do not agree to the terms of this EULA, PC Manufacturer and Microsoft are unwilling to license the SOFTWARE PRODUCT (Microsoft's capitals) to you. In such event, you may not use or copy the SOFTWARE PRODUCT, and you should promptly contact PC Manufacturer for

instructions on return of the unused product(s) for a refund." So the first time he turned it on, he booted from a Linux floppy and deleted the Windows partition on the disk. Hence, he had never used Windows.

Now, he wanted his refund. Toshiba Australia argued that this was a "boilerplate" EULA (which it evidently is). It still covers Windows, pointed out Bennett. Toshiba suggested

ed he give back the whole machine. "No, I just want the refund on Windows, like the EULA says," he replied. Toshiba argued that it couldn't refund him because it didn't have any mechanism to claim a refund from Microsoft. Not my problem, pointed out Bennett.

Toshiba remained stolid. The Small Claims Court beckoned - until Bennett looked

again at the possibility of returning the whole computer, as Toshiba had earlier suggested. By this time, two months after the original purchase, his model was discontinued and the upgraded replacement was \$700 cheaper. "They [Toshiba] were effectively offering me \$700 and a notebook upgrade," notes Bennett. He decided to pursue that option.

The Toshiba reseller, how-

ever, balked at this and got on to Toshiba - which suddenly got back to Bennett offering a refund for Windows. Three months after the saga began, Toshiba produced a cheque.

It may have been a matter of principle for Geoffrey Bennett, but it is a principle others are turning into a movement.

Linux users in California are organising a "Windows Refund Day" on 15 February, when they will converge on Microsoft's offices with Windows disks, manuals and certificates of authenticity to seek their refunds.

While it's doubtful that Bill Gates will get his cheque book out, expect to see PCs with Linux installed coming on the market soon.

Geoffrey Bennett's whole saga (including letters) is on-line at www.netcraft.com.au/geoffrey/toshiba.html

* Instructions on how to go about getting a refund from Microsoft can be found on the Windows Refund Center site at www.linuxsmall.com/refund

WEBSITES

BILL PANNIFER

Adbusters

adbusters.org
These veteran "culture jammers" launched their anti-corporate crusade almost a decade ago, with the aim of turning our mass media away from consumerism and towards social awareness. The Canadian-based Media Foundation organises an annual Buy Nothing Day, and other truly heretical stunts. Selections from its print magazine are available here, and also video clips of its own TV commercials, some of which have been banned or refused, not only by US networks but UK advertising watchdogs. An impressive gallery of parody advertisements includes a Joe Camel send-up called "Joe Chemo" and a Marlboro ad featuring a riderless horse in a wintry graveyard.

Hocus Focus
www.hocusfocus.org
More jamming-in-action in this Situationist-inspired attack on Apple's "Think

Different" marketing campaign. The Apple promotion makes use of nonconformist or counter-cultural icons such as Gandhi, Miles Davis and John Lennon, a move which, according to the site, corrupts these "vessels of psychic energy" and turns them into co-opted product-pushers. So this underground artists' action group either modifies or creates its own versions of the posters for unauthorised display in key locations. Hocus Focus is particularly enraged by the campaign's use of the Dalai Lama, since it claims Apple removed his image to appease the Chinese market. He now bears the text "Marketing is censorship".

RadioWorld
www.radioworld.net
This ambitious-sounding and highly commercial mix of netcasting and virtual worlds technology offers what it calls a "totally immersive [sic] environment". Paying users who



Patron Saints

Patronage Index
members.xoom.com/sjs/patron.htm
Today's saint, according to the online calendar, is the Apostle Paul, but this site also gives details of more marginal players, including those relegated to local status or listed under "cult suppressed" after the Church went through the files in 1969. Here may be found Barbara, one-time saint of powder magazines and arsenals, and Catherine, patron of philosophers and knife grinders.

There are saints for accountants and yachtsmen, saints against abdominal pains and whooping cough, some 679 of them in all, under a thousand topic headings which offer the chance to find the right one for your occupation or condition. The whole impressively researched production is a lay effort by a Catholic convert living in Kentucky. He says: "I'm just a guy in the pews."

NEW FILMS

BULWORTH (18)
Director: Warren Beatty
Starring: Warren Beatty, Halle Berry
Dog-tired and disillusioned at the end of an election campaign, woolly liberal senator Jay Bulworth (Beatty) turns suicidal loose-cannon; lifting the lid on US politics, hanging out in the hood and delivering his speeches in abrasive rap stylings. Beatty's *Bulworth* is a blast: crude and condescending on occasion, yet genuinely audacious and committed; saving a corroded democratic system in a way that few mainstream Hollywood films (and *Bulworth* is bankrolled by Murdoch's Fox Studios) would dare to do. At an age when he might be forgiven for resting on his laurels, Beatty's freewheeling, heart-on-sleeve romp puts him abruptly back in film's front rank. **West End:** Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

CLASS TRIP (LA CLASSE DE NEIGE) (15)
Director: Claude Miller
Starring: Clement Van Den Bergh, François Roy
Pity poor Nicolas (Van Den Bergh), bed-wetting schoolboy fantasist with few friends and a domineering dad in François Roy's prosthetic-limb salesman. Spirited off on a school skiing trip, the nipper starts letting his own dark imaginings run away with him, as Miller's pungent child's-eye psycho-drama switches nervously between stark naturalism and lurid dream sequences. Actually, there's a lot to admire in the tense, smouldering *Class Trip*. The trouble is, Miller gets over-fussy; he keeps messing with the mood, keeps letting air into the pressure-cooker. And you can spot the ending a mile off. **West End:** ABC Shaftesbury Avenue Repertory, Fine Lumiere

54 (15)
Director: Mark Christopher
Starring: Mike Myers, Ryan Phillippe
Christopher's retro-trip through the heyday of New York's Studio 54 boasts a glitterball turn from Myers (as club boss Steve Rubell), but not a whole lot else. What we have here is the luckiest banger-on to Boogie Nights and The Last Days

of Disco's leading lights: a garbled, underdeveloped run-through of dance-floor chic as Ryan Phillippe's colourless busboy falls in with the beautiful folk (Salma Hayek and Neve Campbell) and learns the downside of life in the fast lane. Tatty stuff, all told. **West End:** Odeon Camden Town, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End Local, Acton Park Royal, Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Newham Showcase

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)
Director: Amand Tucker
Starring: Emily Watson, Rachel Griffiths
Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Tucker's warts-and-all biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (sly, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). Sibling rivalries, a ménage à trois and terminal illness are all carefully navigated by Tucker's finely-wrought direction, though it's as an acting showcase that Hilary and Jackie really shines. **West End:** Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill Local, Greenwich Cinema, Richmond Odeon

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)
Director: Griffin Dunne
Starring: Nicole Kidman, Sandra Bullock
Essentially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, *Practical Magic* sees Bullock and Kidman cast as two mismatched sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their orbit. The canny star-pairing is soon spooked by an over-egged eye-of-newt brew that mixes *Beowulf* with *Bedchamber* and *The Witches of Eastwick*. Its spick-and-span surface masks the turmoil of undigested influences. **West End:** ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End and local cinemas

Xan Brooks

GENERAL RELEASE

THE ACID HOUSE (18)
A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh, *The Acid House* plays out in the down-and-dirty landscape of inner-city Edinburgh, and darts with brio between a range of moods and tones. Less poised and populist than *Trainspotting*, but more earthy, edgy and intense, too. **West End:** Odeon Camden Town Local, Newham Showcase

ANTZ (PG)
See *The Independent Recommends*, right. **West End:** UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

THE APPLE (S18) (PG)
Seventeen-year-old Samira Makhmalbaf's precocious debut stages a true-life re-creation of the fortunes of Iran's Naderi sisters, raised in seclusion by their parents before being set loose in the world by a visiting social worker. Part docu-drama, part rites-of-passage fable, this is an extraordinary missive from a burgeoning Iranian film scene. **West End:** Metro, Renoir

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)
The follow-up to *Babe* tosses the hapless "sheep-pig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak anatomical fairytale. **West End:** Plaza, UCI Whiteleys and local cinemas

THE BOYS (18)
Out of jail after serving a sentence for GBH, eldest "boy" Brett Sprague (David Wenham) moves back into his mum's drab suburban home, terrorises his girlfriend and turns his younger brothers into petty henchmen. *The Boys* spotlights the downside of life Down Under - it's potent, predatory stuff. **Repertory:** Prince Charles

DOBERMANN (18)
Vincent Cassel's born-to-be-bad gangster struts and sneers his way through a gleamingly abstracted Paris while Teckey Karyo's bad-egg cop looks on balefully. It seems that this is what the new French cinema is all about: endless misadventure and iconic posing, plus a script that's going nowhere fast. **West End:** Metro, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Trocadero

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS (18)
See *The Independent Recommends*, right. **West End:** ABC Swiss Centre

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)
Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. **West End:** Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road and local cinemas

LITTLE VOICE (15)
Rolled up in her bedroom, Jane Horrocks is perfecting strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations when she falls in with Michael Caine's sleazy impresario. Where director Mark Herman's last film, *Brassed Off*, was a whole and solid effort, *Little Voice* proves altogether more bitty. But bracing black comedy, Horrocks's vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Caine push it through to the final curtain. **West End:** ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)
This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A lot of colourful duels and clattering action setpieces. **West End:** Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI

Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MEET JOE BLACK (12)
Picking his way through Martin Brest's underdeveloped rehaul of *Death Takes a Holiday* goes Brad Pitt's aquiline Grim Reaper, who gets charmed round the everyday delights of Planet Earth by Anthony Hopkins' dying billionaire. The film has a few neat themes and a reliably solid turn from Hopkins, but it's too much a picture of disparate pieces. **West End:** Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

MULAN (U)
In this animated feature, a girl disguises herself as a soldier to spare her ailing father from the certain death of combat. It's one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made. **West End:** Odeon Mezzanine Local, Acton Park Royal, Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Peckham Premier, Streatham Odeon, Wembleton Odeon

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)
See *The Independent Recommends*, right. **West End:** Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End Local, Croydon Warner Village, Ed-monton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham CineWorld, The Movies, Warner Village Finchley Road, Harrow Warner Village, Sutton UCI 6, UCI Surrey Quays

PI (PI) (15)
See *The Independent Recommends*, right. **West End:** ABC Tottenham Court Road, Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema Repertory: Phoenix Cinema

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)
Animated feature which comes across as *The Ten Commandments* by way of Joseph and His Technicolor Dreamcoat. **West End:** Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

RUSH HOUR (15)
Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker star in this hit-and-miss affair. **West End:** Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE SIEGE (15)
A rare Hollywood attempt to get to grips with contemporary geopolitics, *The Siege* winds up a hopelessly fingers-and-thumbs affair. **West End:** Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

SITCOM (18)
In this scattergun satire of middle-class mores, director François Ozon takes abundant pleasure in dismantling a standard nuclear family. The result is savage and funny one moment, indulgent the next. **Repertory:** Watermans Arts Centre

SNAKE EYES (15)
Brian De Palma's Atlantic City-set conspiracy thriller stars Nicolas Cage and Gary Sinise. **Repertory:** Prince Charles

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)
See *The Independent Recommends*, right. **West End:** Plaza

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15)
Robin Williams perfects a lopsided simper as the dead chap who lights out to a cod-Impressionist heaven before jetting southward to rescue his suicide-bride. **West End:** Warner Village West End Local, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Newham Showcase

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

The Dream Life of Angels (18)
Erick Zonta's debut draws its strength from the contrasting personalities of Isa (Eldie Bouchez) and Marie (Natcha Regnier), whose friendship comes alive in the drab environs of Lille.

The Opposite of Sex (18)
Christina Ricci plays bitch-on-wheels Dedee, shooting from the lip and causing havoc when she moves in with her mild-mannered brother. Don Roos's script bristles with acidulous one-liners.

The Truman Show (PG)
Peter Weir's ingenious, unsettling fantasy is, in the end, an escape movie - in the case of Truman Burbank, it's breaking out of the round-the-clock TV docu-soap that is his own life.

PI (15)
Darren Aronofsky's debut, filmed in sooty black-and-white, tells the story of a genius mathematician. This stylish indie movie fearlessly combines *Wall Street*, Jewish mysticism and nightmarish headcases.

Antz (PG)
Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cast features Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely war hero and opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime (right). Terrific fun.



ANTHONY QUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's)
Triumphant revival of Theatre de Complicite's surreal, funny and searing plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz, shot dead by the Nazis in 1942. **To 20 Feb**

The Colour of Justice (Tricycle)
Enormously potent staged re-enactment of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry. It coincides with the uproar surrounding the fate of the policemen involved in the case. **To 6 Feb**

The Memory of Water (Vaudeville)
Alistair Sim (right) pulls off one of the funniest and truest drunk scenes ever in Shelagh Stephenson's fine play about sisters brought back together for their mother's funeral. **To 10 Apr**



PAUL TAYLOR

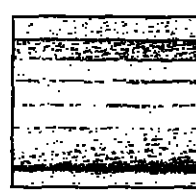
A Month in the Country (RSC, Stratford)
Michael Attenborough directs this Brian Friel adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming desire. **In rep to 20 Feb**

Martin Yesterday (Royal Exchange, Manchester)
Marianne Elliott directs this sharp new play from the cult Canadian dramatist Brad Fraser. **To 6 Feb**

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy)
The gardens and ponds at Giverny dissolve into elemental visions: fiery lights, haze, liquid reflections, voids and depths. The strange last works of Impressionism. **To 18 Apr**

Andreas Gursky (Serpentine Gallery)
Photographs 1994-98: wide-vision, high-finish, micro-detailed vistas of our world - stock-exchange floor, cityscape, airport, alpine valley - images filled with more than the eye can see (right). **To 7 Mar**



Bridget Riley (Abbott Hall Gallery, Kendal)
Retrospective of the top British abstractionist's career, from shimmering monochromes to colour, stripes, diagonals, and curves. **To 31 Jan**

Disasters of War (Wolverhampton Art Gallery)
Three ages of war through etchings by Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Black-and-white visions from the blackest of times. **To 20 Mar**

Willie Doherty (MOMA, Oxford)
Contemporary Irish artist, using photos and video to reflect on the imagery of terror and security - the road-block, the surveillance camera... **To 4 Apr**

TOM LUBBOCK

CINEMA

WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) @ Piccadilly Circus 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322) (from 1pm) @ Piccadilly Circus 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) @ Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 0403) @ Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ABC TOTTEHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) @ Tottenham Court Road 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) @ Barbican Cinema 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) @ Sloane Square 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-734 2255) @ Clapham Common 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) @ Green Park 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-494 4153) @ Hyde Park Corner/Kingsbridge 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255) @ Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) @ Leicester Square 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) @ Notting Hill Gate 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

HARRISONS VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) @ Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ICA CINEMA (0171-930 3647) @ Charing Cross 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

METRO (0171-734 1506) @ Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) @ Notting Hill Gate 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (0870-050007) @ Camden Town 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (0870-050007) @ High Street Kensington 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (0870-050007) @ Leicester Square 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0870-050007) @ Marble Arch 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON MEZZANINE (0870-050007) @ Leicester Square 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (0870-050007) @ Swiss Cottage 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm, 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.20pm, 12.20pm, 1.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 10.10pm, 12.25pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

ODEON TROCADERO (0870-050007) @ Tottenham Court Road 12.30pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm, 11.50pm, 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.10pm

RICHMOND
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Richmond Hillary And Jackie 12.30pm, 3.00pm, 6.10pm, 9pm
Little Voice 2pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm
Practical Magic 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)
BR/ Richmond Bulworth 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Enemy of the State 2.30pm, 9pm
The Mask of Zorro 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Meet Joe Black 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

ROMFORD
ABC (08705 9020419) BR/ Romford Meet Joe Black 2.30pm, 7.20pm
Practical Magic 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm, 11.00pm
The Siege 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR/ Romford Enemy of the State 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm
Little Voice 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm
The Mask of Zorro 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm
Meet Joe Black 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm
Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm
The Siege 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm

SIDCUP
ABC (08705 555131) BR/ Sidcup Little Voice 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm
Meet Joe Black 1.30pm, 7.15pm

STAPLES CORNER
VIRGIN (08705 9070717) BR/ Crickwood Bulworth 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm
Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm
Little Voice 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm
Meet Joe Black 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm
Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm
The Siege 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm

STREATHAM
ABC (08705 9020415) BR/ Streatham Hill Antz 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Meet Joe Black 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
The Siege 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Streatham Hill/Bruton/Clapham Common Bulworth 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm
Enemy of the State 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm
Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm
Practical Magic 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm
The Siege 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

STRAITFORD
NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181 555 3366) BR/ Stratford East Bulworth 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm
Little Voice 1.35pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm
Meet Joe Black 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm
Practical Magic 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm
The Siege 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

SURREY QUAYS
UCI (0990 888990) BR/ Surrey Quays Bulworth 4.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm
Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm
Little Voice 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm
The Mask of Zorro 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm
Meet Joe Black 4.30pm, 8.10pm
The Opposite of Sex 4pm, 7pm, 9.45pm
Practical Magic 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 9pm
The Siege 6.40pm, 9.30pm
Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

SUTTON
UCI (0990 888990) BR/ Sutton-on-Avon Bulworth 4.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm
Enemy of the State 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm
Meet Joe Black 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm
The Mask of Zorro 3.30pm, 6.00pm, 8.30pm
Meet Joe Black 4.45pm, 8.15pm
The Opposite of Sex 6.50pm, 9.40pm
Practical Magic 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm
The Siege 9.30pm, 12.30pm
Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

TURNPIKE LANE
CORONET (0181 888 2519) BR/ Turnpike Lane Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm
Meet Joe Black 3.30pm, 7.25pm
The Siege 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

OXFORD
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Oxford Meet Joe Black 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Practical Magic 1pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

WALTHAMSTOW
ABC (08705 9020424) BR/ Walthamstow Central Little Voice 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm
Meet Joe Black 2.10pm, 8.20pm
Practical Magic 2.10pm, 8.20pm

WALTON ON THAMES
THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932 252825) BR/ Walton on Thames Little Voice 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm
Meet Joe Black 3pm, 7.15pm

WELL HALL
CORONET (0181 850 3351) BR/ Eltham Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm
Little Voice 3pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

WILLESDEAN
BELLEVUE (0181 830 0822) BR/ Willesdean Green The Prince of Egypt 4.45pm, 8.30pm, 11.00pm

WIMBORNE
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Wimborne-on-Medway Bulworth 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm
Enemy of the State 2.30pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm
Little Voice 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm
Meet Joe Black 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 7.30pm
Practical Magic 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm
The Siege 6pm, 8.30pm
Star Trek: Insurrection 1.45pm, 3.50pm

WOODFORD
ABC (0181 989 3463) BR/ South Woodford Little Voice 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm
Meet Joe Black 2.30pm, 7.30pm
The Siege 2.40pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

WOOLWICH
CORONET (0181 854 5043) BR/ Woolwich Arsenal The Mask of Zorro 4pm, 8.10pm
Practical Magic 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CINEMA

REPERTORY

LONDON
CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171 838 2144/2146) Classe de Neige (NC) 6.30pm, 8.30pm

NFT SOUTH BANK, SE1 (0171 928 3232) Orders to Kili Movie Monday (NC) 12.30pm Forgive Me Not (at New River) 7.15pm
Presentations: (NC) 6.15pm The Merchant of Four Seasons (18) 6.30pm
The Spanish Prisoner (PG) 8.45pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171 837 8181) The Wedding Singer (12) 1pm Lethal Weapon 4 (15) 3.30pm
Dying Young (15) 6.30pm

THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week's running times include intervals. Seats at all prices. Seats at some prices. — Returns only. Matinee — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat.

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171 494 5065) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50. £12.50-£17.50 (restricted views). 130 mins.

AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in this revival of Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama, Old Vic Theat. SE1 (0171 928 7616/c 420 0000) BR/ Waterloo, Mon-Sat 8.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, £10-£30. 180 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on the classic tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171 656 1888) or Tott. Ct. Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5]/[7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical masterpiece about two boys who are separated at birth. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Leic. Sq. Tott. Ct. Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Park Street, WC2 (0171 405 0072/c 0171 405 0079) or Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3]/[7] 3pm, £12.50-£35. 165 mins.

CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davidson star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171 344 0055) or Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins.

THE GLOVE OF LIVING Drama set amongst the trailer parks of southern America from new playwright Rebecca Gilman. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) 101 Finsbury Park, N7 (0171 565 3000) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 6 Feb, £10, concs £5.

GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film. American Express, Cambridge Earthen Road, WC2 (0171 494 5080) or Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150 mins.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York star in this hit musical. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171 494 5080) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £12-£29.50. 110 mins.

INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on the dark side of fairy tales. Dominion Warehouse Earthen Road, WC2 (0171 369 1732) or Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, £15-£27.50.

KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Julia McKenzie star in Alan Bennett's comedy about the tortured writer Franz Kafka. Dora, WC2 (0171 369 1734) or Picc. Cir. In rep. tonight 8pm, ends 26 Feb, £12-£30.

LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EUNUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Hare's drama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, SW1 (0171 369 1733) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, ends 13 Mar, £7-£27.50.

LORD OF THE FLIES Stage version of William Golding's classic tale of schoolboys living on a deserted island. Lyric, Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181 761 3311) or Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb, £5-£16.

THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman. Samantha Bond and Julia Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, £10-£27.50.

LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171 494 5080) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5]/[7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins.

MISS SAHON Musical which retells the *Madam Butterfly* tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171 494 5060) or Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4]/[7] 3pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mins.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit which has just begun running. St Martin's Theatre, WC2 (0171 494 5060) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy western farmland musical. Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 (0870 506 3446/c 60046) or Charing Cross/Kembridge. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, ends 26 June, £10-£35.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171 494 5000/c 0171 344 4444) or Picc. Cir. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4]/[7] 3pm, £10-£35. 150 mins.

RENT Musical inspired by *La Bohème* and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000 211221) or Holborn/Tott. Ct. Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

RICHARD III Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171 836 8888/c 0171 836 0479) or Charing Cross/Kembridge. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE **OLIVER** Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's musical. This revival of the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller. In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 20 Feb.

LYTTLETON: The Forest Alan Ayckbourn's new version of Ostrander's black social satire stars Frances de la Tour. In rep. tonight 7.30pm.

COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins. Olivier and Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottlesloe: £12-£18. NT2000: £4, concs £3. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171 452 3000). BR/ Waterloo.

THE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY **THE BARBICAN: The Merchant of Venice** RSC production of Shakespeare's drama about love and money. In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 9 Mar. 180 mins.

THE PIT: Shadows: Riders to the Sea and The Shadow of the Glen Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Mar. Barbican Theatre: £5-£27. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican, Mon-Sat (0171 438 8891). BR/ Barbican/Moorgate.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Bill 1970s musical featuring legendary songs and three new tracks by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171 494 5020) or Oxford Cir. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171 416 6070) BR/ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3]/[7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy of love. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, ends 30 Jan, £15-£27.50. 140 mins.

VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her down-trodden family. Albany St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke of York's) St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171 369 1733) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]/[7] 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins.

WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171 839 5972) or Leic. Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171 836 2428) or Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5]/[7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stage adaptation of Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171 836 2238/c 0171 344 4444) or Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA **PALACE THEATRE** Centre Murder is Easy Stage adaptation of Agatha Christie's country house mystery. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 30 Jan, £5.50-£14.50, concs available. London Road (01702 342564).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

WINDSOR **THEATRE ROYAL** Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodunnit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, 2.30pm, £4.50-£23.50, concs available. Thames Street (01753 853888).

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' Suddenly Last Summer is a play with a sting in the tail. When Mrs Veneble's son dies in mysterious circumstances, she offers to finance a new wing for a mental asylum in his name. Cathy, the last person to see her son alive, undergoes treatment and as her memory returns, some shocking details emerge. Rachel Weiss (right) takes the role of Cathy.
Comedy Theatre, Ponton Street, London, SW1 (0171 369 1731) opens 9 Apr

Last Call
IT'S QUIET in these days of dance and Britpop for a heavy metal band to gain a following. It's even more impressive when that following is not just a group of greasy, leather-clad adolescents. Emerging from the metal graveyard, Terrorvision exemplify Britrock. Their raucous, energetic sound has an endearing pop sensibility which can be heard most clearly on their current single, the stomping "Tequila", which is taken from their latest album, *Shaving Paraches*.
V3 Studio Hill, Newport, South Wales (01633 222555) 30 Jan.



EXHIBITIONS

ABERYSTWYTH

ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE Here to Stay: Arts Council Collection Purchases of the 1990s Contemporary art inspired by domesticity and everyday objects. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, free. Penglais (01970 623232)

BRISTOL
ARNOLFINI Secret Victorians: A vision of the 18th-century presented by 20th-century artists. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan. Free. Narrow Quay (0117 929 9191)

WATERSHED Places of Presence - Newfoundland and Ancestral Land: Marlene Creates The Canadian artist combines objects, photographs, texts and hand-drawn memory maps. Mon-Sat 10am-11pm, ends 7 Mar. Free. Canon's Road (0117 925 3845)

LONDON
BRITISH MUSEUM Building the British Museum: Tracing the history of the institution from Montagu House to the present. Ends 18 Apr. £1, concs 50p (incl entry to Roman Britain). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm, free. Great Court (01753 863131)

PORT TALBOT
FRANCIS ROYAL THEATRE Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs: A new production of the classic story. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 13 Feb. £9-£15. Malthouse Lane (01722 320333)

SALISBURY
SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Bilthe Spirit Noel Coward's comedy about a man haunted by the spirit of his dead wife is revived for his centenary. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 13 Feb. £9-£15. Malthouse Lane (01722 320333)

STRAITFORD-UPON-AVON
SWAN THEATRE Truitt and Cressida: Shakespeare's depiction of the human spirit undermined by bloody warfare. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789 259623)

WATFORD
PALACE THEATRE Darkness Falls: A double installation of sinister drama from Jonathan Holroyd. Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 20

MONDAY RADIO

PICK OF THE DAY

IN TONIGHT'S edition of Football Legends (7.30pm R5 Live), Jimmy Armfield looks at the career of the goalkeeper Gordon Banks (right). It's a thorough resume, from the early glories at Chelsea to the car accident in 1972 which abruptly ended his playing days. In Postscript (9.10pm R3), Tony Benn introduces extracts from the campaigning political

writings of William Morris, an artist whose socialist principles would confound Lord Leslie Timmuss, the petulant bulldog creation of John Mortimer. Rik Mayall reads the latest Timmuss novel, *The Sound of Trumpets*, in Book at Bedtime (10.45pm R4), making good use of the braying tone he perfected in *The Young Ones*.

DOMINIC CAVENTISH



a selection of songs by French composers reacting against the 19th-century Romantic tradition. Lisa Milne (soprano), Sarah Connolly (mezzo), Iain Burnside (piano). Satis: Trois poemes d'amour. Chabrier: Pastorale des cochons roses. Milhaud: Catalogue des fleurs. Poulenc: Quatre poemes de Guillaume Apollinaire. Roussel: Jazz dans la nuit; Le bachelier de Salamancque. Satis: Trois melodies. Honegger: Petits cours de morale. Rosenthal: Chansons de Monsieur Bleu (excerpts). 10.45 Mixing it. For Harry Patch, the American composer, theorist and creator of musical instruments, the way an instrument looked was almost as important as the way it sounded. Twenty-five years after his death, Mark Russell and Robert Sandall explore the legacy of a man who described himself as a musician seduced by carpentry. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Henry Purcell. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Start the Week. 9.45 Serial: The Victorian Internet. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Great Expectations. 11.30 Bangers and Mash. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather.

1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Counterpoint. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Dead Men Tell No Tales. 3.00 NEWS; Money Box Live: 0870 010 0444. 3.30 The Vale. (R) 3.45 This Scapred Isle. (R) 4.00 NEWS; The Food Programme. 4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Just a Minute. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row: Mark Lawson with the arts programme. 7.45 Inner Voices. Five sparkling studies of modern life written and performed by Rickie Beadle Blair. 'Fares Fair'. With Karl Collins. Director Jeremy Mortimer (1/5). 8.00 NEWS; Hope in Oklahoma. American historian John Hope Franklin returns to his birthplace at the turn of the century, it was one of a handful of all-black towns created as havens from segregation. Can the town survive today with a population of only 88? 8.30 In Business. 'Over a Barrel'. Oil prices plunge - oil plants merge. Peter Day reports on the upheavals sweeping through the oil industry. 9.00 NEWS; Nature: Starlings. A look at the startling, uncovering some surprising secrets of a bird once considered common but now in serious decline.

9.30 Start the Week. Jeremy Paxman and his guests set the cultural agenda for the week. 10.00 The World Tonight. With Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets. John Mortimer's novel is set in Blair's Britain, with Terry Flinton standing as New Labour's candidate for the safe Conservative seat of Hartscombe and Worsfield South. The by-election has been caused by the mysterious death of the sitting MP. Read by Rik Mayall. Abridged in ten parts by Neville Teller. See Pick of the Day. 11.00 Radio 4 Appeal. Melvyn Bragg speaks on behalf of the National Library for the Blind, a charity which provides books for the visually impaired. 11.02 Espadard Street. (R) 11.30 At the Foot of the Mountain. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Round Ireland with a Frigate. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 1.30 World News. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 Inshore Forecast. 2.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

RADIO 5 LIVE (630, 908kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Football Legends. Jimmy Armfield talks to some of the great footballers of the past. This week, he meets World Cup-winning goalkeeper Gordon Banks. See Pick of the Day. 8.00 Trevor Brookings Monday Match. Full commentary on tonight's FA Cup fourth-round tie between Oxford and Chelsea. 10.00 Late Night Live. Nick Robinson sets tomorrow's agenda today. Including at 10.30 a full round-up of the day's sport, and at 11.00 a late news briefing. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. **CLASSIC FM** (100.1-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Baker. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newswatch. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Martin. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

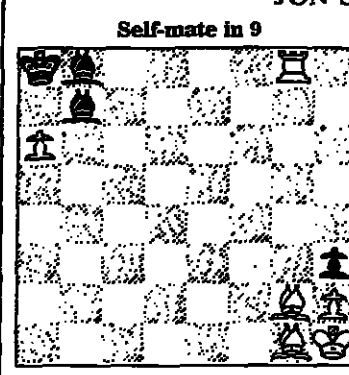
VIRGIN RADIO (125, 197-226kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 6.00 Chris Evans. 9.30 Mark Forster. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.30 Pete & Geoff. 10.00 James Merritt. 1.00 Steve Power. 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO** (198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Westway. 1.45 Record News. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 The Next Big Thing. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today (4.00-7.00).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 1.00 Anna Rasmussen. 4.00 Peter Dingley. 5.00 The Sports Zone. 8.00 James Whale. 1.00 - 6.00 Ian Collins.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESSE

ION SPEELMAN



Self-mate in 9

G Broecker, London Chess fortnightly 1892

IN THIS problem White is required to force Black to mate him in nine moves. Not much to do with normal chess, you may think, and I can hardly demur too strongly. But before the solution at the end, here is a digression about analogous ideas in actual play.

Unless it is particularly, as we say, "sharp", there is generally a choice of two or three reasonable moves in a middlegame or opening position. Of course, there are many forcing situations in contradiction to this: tactical sequences in which you must recapture, parry a check, prevent a direct attack on the king or perhaps meet some more strategic threat (which will normally involve changing the pawn structure in some way - for example, quite often it's absolutely essential to block a pawn's advance to prevent critical lines being opened).

But the principle remains that at these relatively early stages, when there are plenty of pieces on the board, you often have quite a broad choice: a choice which, however,

tends to narrow as the endgame approaches.

This may seem odd - surely when there's more room there will be more reasonable squares for your pieces; but the thing is that any weaknesses which require defending - or of the opponent's to attack - can only be protected/attacked by the small number of men now available.

This restriction of choice finds its purest form in king and pawn endings, in which often there will be a single good move. And especially when the pawn structure is fixed, the kings may have to dance around in exceedingly complex ways in order to gain or deny entry to each other.

Here, for the kings read bishops and rook. In order to solve the problem, we need to consider where the rook needs to be with Black to move, depending on the number of squares between the bishops.

With no squares in between, the obvious case is Bc6 vs Bb7, when it must be on h8.

With one square between, eg Bb5 vs Bb7, White should play 1 Rb1! Bc6 2 Rb1!

Similarly, with two squares between it should be on d8, three e8 and four f8.

This gives the solution:

1 Rb1! Bc6 2 Rb1 Bb7 3 Rb1 Bc6 4 Rb1 Bc6 5 Rb1 Bc6 6 Rb1 Bc6 7 Rb1 Bc6 8 Rb1 Bb7 9 Bc6 Bxc6 mate.

Another line goes:

1 Rb1 Bc6 2 Rb1 Bb7 3 Bb2 Bc6 4 Rb1 Bb7 5 Bc6 Bb7 6 Rb1 Bb7 7 Bc6 Bb7 8 Rb1 Bb7 9 Bc6 Bxc6 mate.

jspeelman@compuserve.com

BRIDGE

ALAN HIRON

SOUTH SEEMED to have made a serious error of judgement on this deal when, after West's opening bid of Four Hearts had been followed by two passes, he decided to join in with Four Spades.

The first hurdle was cleared when North, fortunately, elected to pass, allowing his partner some leeway, but West's contract would have been sure to fail and South seemed to be facing a hopeless task in his own.

Clearly it was up to declarer to justify his optimism, and he did so brilliantly in spite of West finding the best lead - the queen of diamonds - for the defence. South allowed this to hold and won the diamond continuation with his ace. He followed with a successful finesse of ♠Q, cashed ♠A, and ruffed a club in hand before crossing to ♠K.

At this point West had been reduced to hearts alone so, although a heart to South's nine allowed him to cash two tricks in the suit, he was now forced to concede a ruff and discard. After dummy had discarded ♠J, East was left with an awkward problem. What should he discard from his remaining ♠9 8

Love all; dealer West

North
♠ K 7 5 3
♥ 6 4
♦ J 7 3
♣ A Q 7 2

West
♠ 2
♥ A Q J 10 7 5 3
♦ Q 2
♣ K 10 5

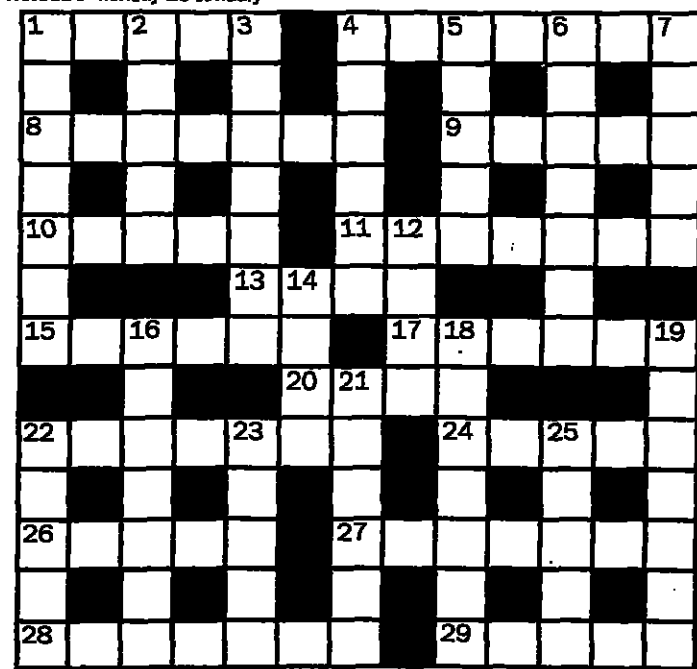
East
♠ 9 8 4
♥ 8 2
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ J 9 6 4

South
♠ A Q J 10 6
♥ K 9
♦ A 6 5 4
♣ 8 3

♦ K 10 ♠ J? If he parted with a diamond, one ruff on the table would establish South's six; if he threw a club, dummy would be high. Eventually East decided to defer his problem by discarding a trump, but this did not help - declarer simply over-ruffed and had the rest of the tricks on a cross-ruff. It was an odd end position - East was effectively squeezed in three suits, one of which was trumps!

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No. 3828 Monday 25 January



ACROSS

- River crossing etc (5)
- European country (7)
- Back pain (7)
- Jungle creeper (5)
- Once more (5)
- Procedure in rugby game (7)
- Dutch cheese (4)
- Put into cipher (6)
- Seem (6)
- Weapons (4)
- Dead skin beside nail (7)
- Also known as (5)
- Stupid person (5)
- Nervy (7)
- Sheltered site (7)
- Proportion (5)

DOWN

- Leaves (7)
- Latin American dance (5)
- Longed (7)
- Fairground game (4-2)
- Man-made fibre (5)
- Shellfish (7)
- Raising agent (5)
- Muslim prayer leader (4)
- Transaction (4)
- Set (7)
- Book of psalms (7)
- Rice dish (7)
- Money back (6)
- Ship of the desert (5)
- Line dance (5)
- Bar of gold etc (5)

Solution to last Saturday's Concise Crossword:
ACROSS: 1 Noh, 3 Tarry (Notary), 7 Cribbage, 8 Drob, 9 Authenticity, 10 Falcon, 12 Poultry, 14 Perambulator, 18 Zinc, 19 Test tube, 20 Torch, 21 Lot, DOWN: 1 Nirvana, 2 Habit, 3 Theft, 4 Radical, 5 Yeast, 6 Tavern, 11 Chaucer, 12 Polish, 13 Rarsbit, 15 Edict, 16 Blith, 17 Tual.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

FOR MANY YEARS, Helena Bonham Carter (right) was pigeonholed as the girl with the pre-Raphaelite locks who was only really capable of starring in such dreamy period pictures as *A Room with a View* (8pm FilmFour). In this archetypal EM Forster adaptation from the Merchant Ivory stable, she plays Lucy Honeychurch, a young woman in 1907 who is sexually awakened on a trip to Florence.

More recently, however, Bonham Carter has been breaking away from type by appearing in such films as Woody Allen's New York-set comedy, *Mighty Aphrodite*. She continues her change of image in *Portraits Chinois* (10pm FilmFour), Martine Dugowson's impressionistic film about a fashion designer's (Bonham Carter) circle friends in contemporary Paris. In a series of sketches, they are all soon revealed as soulless deceivers.



JAMES RAMPTON

Turning Points (168004), 1.30 Flightline (915375), 2.00 Close. **SKY ONE** 2.00 Count Duckula (1659), 2.30 The Simpsons (7564), 3.00 The Simpsons (88903), 3.30 Hollywood Squares (87274), 4.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (7361), 10.00 The Carol Winfrey Show (574), 11.00 Gullity (2822), 12.00 Jenny Jones (85303), 1.00 Mad about You (2400), 1.30 Jeopardy (5545), 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (9103), 3.00 Jenny Jones (2472), 4.00 Gullity (8554), 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (830), 6.00 Married with Children (2283), 6.30 Friends (8545), 7.00 The Simpsons (890), 7.30 The Simpsons (8729), 8.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (5458), 9.00 First Wave (8722), 10.00 South Park (8908), 10.30 Sanitized (8057), 11.00 Friends (87203), 11.30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (8900), 12.30 Highlander (8722), 1.30 - 2.00 Long Play (553084).

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Football (7603), 8.30 Racing News (7241), 9.00 Aerobics (8323), 9.30 World Sport (8187), 10.00 Scottish Football (8458), 12.00 Aerobics (8722), 12.30 What a Weekend (8500), 1.00 Football (7733), 2.30 Sports Illustrated (8831), 4.00 Moto-pulse (106), 4.30 V-Max (7390), 5.00 Outdoor Quest (8699), 6.00 Sports Centre (583), 6.30 What a Weekend (2836), 7.00 Table Tennis: Grand Final (1053), 8.00 Outdoor Quest (8413), 9.00 Wrestling (8235903), 12.55

Sky Sports Centre (843404), 12.30 You're on Sky Sports (7672), 1.00 Football (7671), 2.00 Wrestling (8458202), 5.35 Sports Centre (7634238), 5.30 Close. **SKY SPORTS 2** 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (832080), 7.30 Racing News (848123), 8.00 European Tour Golf (213803), 8.30 Total Sport (87584), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (75094), 1.00 Total Golf USA (86018), 4.00 Thriller: 1998 World Cup - Zurich (244212), 5.00 Football League Review (87583), 6.00 World Windsurfing (482722), 6.30 V-Max (843303), 7.00 FA Cup Special Oxford United vs Chelsea (773023), 10.55 Sky Sports Centre (875823), 10.30 You're on Sky Sports (869125), 1.00 Table Tennis: Grand Final (84503), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (870282), 1.00 World Polo Championships (825828), 2.00 Football (84442), 3.30 - 7.00 International Cricket England vs Australia (22877).

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Motor Racing (4208374), 2.30 Motorsports (172583), 3.30 Table Tennis: (842577), 4.30 Polo Championships (8558), 5.30 Total Sport (87584), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (75094), 1.00 Total Golf USA (86018), 4.00 Thriller: 1998 World Cup - Zurich (244212), 5.00 Football League Review (87583), 6.00 World Windsurfing (482722), 6.30 V-Max (843303), 7.00 FA Cup Special Oxford United vs Chelsea (773023), 10.55 Sky Sports Centre (875823), 10.30 You're on Sky Sports (869125), 1.00 Table Tennis: Grand Final (84503), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (870282), 1.00 World Polo Championships (825828), 2.00 Football (84442), 3.30 - 7.00 International Cricket England vs Australia (22877).

Figure Skating (85285), 9.30 Tennis (80835), 10.00 Eurogals (42835), 11.30 Boxing (10458), 12.30 Close. **UK GOLD** 7.00 Crossroads (278701), 7.30 Neighbours (874257), 7.55 EastEnders (188072), 8.30 The Bill (803130), 9.30 The House of Eliott (207833), 10.30 Rhoda (802856), 11.00 Dallas (44585), 11.55 Neighbours (852059), 12.35 EastEnders (774803), 1.00 Jai Alamos (81564), 2.00 Dallas (861212), 2.55 The Bill (117725), 3.55 EastEnders (805683), 4.30 Rhoda (156777), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (22323), 6.00 Dynasty (428800), 7.00 20/20: Chicken (875822), 7.40 It Ain't Half Hot Mum (84670), 8.20 Yes, Minister (824632), 9.00 Terms before Bedtime (854003), 10.05 Hamish Macbeth (825564), 11.00 Sports Anorak of the Year (725564), 11.45 The Bill (734583), 12.45 Backup (218794), 1.40 French and Saunders (802453), 2.00 Col-Ins Sandwich (85773), 3.00 - 7.00 Shopping (223239).

LIVERPOOL 6.00 Try (832100), 6.20 Philbert (292048), 6.30 Johnson (8405212), 6.45 Try Tales (713972), 6.50 Poka Dot Shorts (713922), 7.00 Parenting (703564), 7.05 Professor Bubble (87545), 7.30 Callou (877038), 7.35 Bug Alert (877274), 7.55 Parenting (822003), 8.00 Benny (822003), 8.30 Try Tales (794700), 8.55 Try and Crew (22258).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Newsline (6.30 (23)).
BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 12.30 Lunch in Farnham (Mouse and Mole) (544585), 12.35 Orian agus Rannan (Song and Rhyme) (544586), 12.40 Pictorial Post (Postman Pat) (772100), 6.00 News (54), 6.30 Reporting Scotland: Land; Weather (23).
BBC1 WALES As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Wales Today (23), 10.40 Aifgeithen Now (85545), 11.00 Snooker (8081), 11.45 Match of the Day (80700), 12.40 Film: By the Sword (23535), 2.15 John's BBC News 24 (982036).

ANGLIA As Carlton except: 12.30 Anglia News and Weather (81951), 1.00 Shortland Street (858274), 1.35 Home and Away (859480), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 2.30 Anglia News and Weather (858274), 3.00 Anglia News (859480), 4.40 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 5.00 Home and Away (859480), 5.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 6.00 Anglia News (859480), 6.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 7.00 Home and Away (859480), 7.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 8.00 Anglia News (859480), 8.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 9.00 Home and Away (859480), 9.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 10.00 Anglia News (859480), 10.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 11.00 Home and Away (859480), 11.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 12.00 Anglia News (859480), 12.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 5.30 Painting with Words (80062), 6.25 HTV West Weather (7677), 6.30 The West Tonight (38).
MERIDIAN As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morning (246763), 10.55 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 1.00 Shortland Street (858274), 1.35 Home and Away (859480), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 2.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 3.00 Home and Away (859480), 3.30 Three Minutes (7477), 6.00 Meridian Tonight (803), 6.30 Country Ways (81), 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (842800), 12.00 Film: Son of Dracula* (859480), 12.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 1.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 1.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 2.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 2.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 3.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 3.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 4.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 4.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 5.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 5.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 6.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 6.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 7.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 7.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 8.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 8.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 9.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 9.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 10.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 11.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 11.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 12.00 Meridian News and Weather (803505), 12.30 Meridian News and Weather (803505).

WESTCOUNTRY As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morning (246763), 10.55 Westcountry News (803505), 12.27 Burnham-on-Sea (852767), 1.00 High Road (7100), 1.30 Westcountry News (852763), 2.00 Westcountry News (852763), 2.30 The Wright Verdicts (842800), 2.40 Film: Son of Dracula* (859480), 3.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 3.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 4.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 4.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 5.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 5.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 6.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 6.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 7.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 7.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 8.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 8.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 9.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 9.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 10.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 11.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 11.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 12.00 The Jerry Springer Show (859480), 12.30 The Jerry Springer Show (859480).

S4C As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Yago and Leanne (857881), 12.00 Right to Reply (8214594), 12.30 Sesame Street (821603), 1.00 Planned Plant (476384), 1.30 Classic Aircraft (85380), 2.00 The Team (85380), 3.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan (85380), 4.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 5.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 5.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 6.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 6.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 7.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 7.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 8.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 8.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 9.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 9.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 10.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 10.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 11.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 11.30 The Mortal Heir (85380), 12.00 The Mortal Heir (85380), 12.30 The Mortal Heir (85380).



ROBERT HANKS

TELEVISION REVIEW

EVER SINCE Darwin, the list of things that separate us from the animals has been shrinking. One of the last signs we can cling to is our aesthetic sense, and even that looks doubtful after last week's *Animal Minds* (Sat BBC1), which showed that pigeons can distinguish Mafiosi from Polesio about as effectively as most art students. Mind you, didn't you always half suspect that if they were really bright, they'd have been doing a proper subject like history or physics?

This week, the list was whittled down even further: as the series went on to ask whether animals have feelings. Up to a point, this is uncontroversially true - when we're dealing with the higher primates, who express emotions in ways we can easily recognise, or when we are talking about the most primitive emotions, such as fear and pleasure (even fish, it seems, will go out of their way to stimulate their pleasure centres). But the programme went on to examine more complex, more human-seeming emotions, and to suggest that animals have a wider range of sensibilities than you might expect.

The street little pinto vole, for instance, bonds for life after mating, and if one dies, its mate is unlikely to bond again: doesn't this look like love? And if animals can love, can't they be jealous? We met Nelson the mackerel who can't bear to see his owner, Christine, in bed with her partner, Paul, though when you compared Nelson's green and coral plumage with Paul's brown pyjamas, it was hard to see why he was getting jealous about.

Perhaps most importantly, it was clear that animals experience stress and anxiety in similar ways to us. Young male baboons, continually intimidated and harassed by the dominant males, are likely to come down with peptic ulcers and heart disease. From this you can derive the simple proposition that animals have a capacity to suffer that entitles them to moral consideration.

Trying to take the argument a step further, though, the programme stumbled. The question was, can animals feel guilt or shame? First we were shown experiments in shaming children - asking them to complete a task before a buzzer went off, then ensuring failure by adding the thirder

(which seemed to prove that whether or not children experience shame, some scientists certainly don't). We were then shown an orang-utan doing similar tests and showing defeat. Then came a bizarre chain of reasoning: these children feel shame when they fail tests; the orang-utans also feel shame; shame implies moral awareness... If I ever see an orang-utan looking disappointed in himself after staying up to watch last night's erotic movies on US, returning his reward banana because he feels guilty about having cheated at the last test, then I might admit there is something in this. Still, apart from that blip, this has so far been an exemplary balancing act between scientific reductionism and anthropomorphic sentimentalism.

For years during the Cold War, espionage was treated by novelists as a kind of moral frontier territory - notions such as loyalty, truth and friendship were hopelessly blurred for the agent. The *Spying Game* (Sat, Ch 4) was a surprisingly well-crafted espionage novel, with the ethics of spying removed, spies popped up posing seamlessly in public toilets to show how they would photograph their documents, talking with the enthusiasm that salesmen and computer programmers bring to their craft about secret cameras, dead-letter drops and microdots. Spying, it seemed, can be ethically neutral fun, and it isn't even that dangerous when you compared Nelson's green and coral plumage with Paul's brown pyjamas. It was hard to see why he was getting jealous about.

Perhaps it's a little early to treat the Cold War as no more than a game, but this came with just enough gravitas to avoid the charge of frivolity. Not a criticism. The *Scarlet Tinternet* (Sun BBC1) needs to worry about either. The middle-class is in the majority now, which is a problem for a drama that relies utterly on the conviction of the natural superiority of the upper classes: there is a dire shortage of really plucky peasants and lordly aristocrats. But, I had high hopes for *Richard E. Grant* as the hero who hides under a veil of hypocrisy, if only because the hero was to be good for something. Unfortunately, not only was he alarmingly limp-wristed in the fight scenes, the big scenes were sleep-inducingly tedious. You looked for a juicy ban, instead you got a tin of Spam.

BBC1

BBC2

ITV Carlton

Channel 4

Channel 5

- 6.00 Business Breakfast** (2000) 7.00 News (T) (78651).
6.00 News (S) (T) (631723). **6.45 The News Show** (S) (T) (782369). **10.45 News** (Regional News, 10.45) (T) (782369). **11.00 Paul Power** (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **7.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **8.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **9.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **10.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **11.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **12.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **1.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **2.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **3.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **4.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.00** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **5.45** *Cartoon* (S) (T) (782369). **6.00** *Cartoon* (